

# *The* Silent Worker

THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE FOR ALL THE DEAF

A LESSON IN  
LIVING



FLORITA,  
DANCING STAR



THE GOOD OLD  
SILENT DAYS



ANGEL ACUNA



FLORITA TELLEZ (See page 5)

50c Per Copy

March, 1949

# *The* Silent Worker

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

Vol. 1, No. 7

**March, 1949**

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THE SILENT WORKER is published monthly at 982 Cragmont Avenue, Berkeley 8, California. Subscription prices: United States and possessions, the Philippine Islands, Canada, Spain, Mexico, Central and South American countries except the Guianas, 1 year, \$3.50; other countries, 1 year, \$4.50.

Entered as second class matter August 23, 1948 at the Post Office at Berkeley, California,  
under the Act of March 3, 1879.

General business office: 982 Cragmont Avenue, Berkeley 8, California. All correspondence relating to editorial matters should be addressed to the editor, 4955 Coronado Avenue, Oakland 9, California. Notification of change of address must reach the editors by the first of the month preceding publication. The advertising printed in **THE SILENT WORKER** does not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of the magazine.

# This Month...

**T**WO DECADES AGO, Henry P. Crutcher enrolled in the New Jersey School for the Deaf with the purpose of learning the mechanics of Linotype operation. Since he now ekes out a living by acting as director of the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the Department of Labor in Detroit, one is inclined to suspect that his typographical ambitions met with indifferent success. Be that as it may, his stay in the New Jersey School wasn't entirely fruitless, for while he was there he enlivened the pages of the old **SILENT WORKER** with regular humorous articles.

On page 7 in this issue of THE SILENT WORKER, Crutch takes up where he left off in 1929. At least, that was the editor's conclusion on first examining the article. It wasn't until we read a letter accompanying the copy that we discovered there was nothing frivolous about Mr. Crutcher's intentions. Says he, "When I started the article, I had every intention of producing a serious piece on the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Detroit. When I finished, however, I was forced to revise the title, as there seems to be little mention made of this subject . . ." See for yourself . . .

In this issue Jerry Fail returns to the pages of THE SILENT WORKER with an article (page 5) on Florita Tellez, a deaf dancer who is now a resident of San Francisco. Visitors to the Bay Area during the Fifth Annual National Basketball Tournament, to be held in Oakland on the weekend of April 1-2-3, will be given a chance to make the acquaintance of Miss Tellez, who will perform before the deaf on Saturday evening, April 2, during the Tournament Ball.

April 2, during the Tournament Ball.

Other articles in the current issue which will interest readers are Wesley Lauritsen's "A Lesson in Living" (page 3), and the biographical account of deaf basketball star Angel Acuna, (page 27), written by Paul Baldridge of Tucson, Arizona. Lauritsen, who is an advisory editor on our staff, tells the story of John Lauby, blind and deaf Minnesotan who died a few years ago. Lauby's courageous attitude toward life cannot help but serve as an inspiration to those who read the article.

Persons interested in acting as correspondents or agents for The Silent Worker should write to Thomas Y. Northern, 1448 Elizabeth St., Denver 6, Colo. Mr. Northern has been assigned to the post of coordinator of agents.

# A Lesson In Living

by  
WESLEY  
LAURITSEN

*Deaf, blind and without  
the ability to speak, John Lauby  
of Minnesota still found  
happiness in living.*

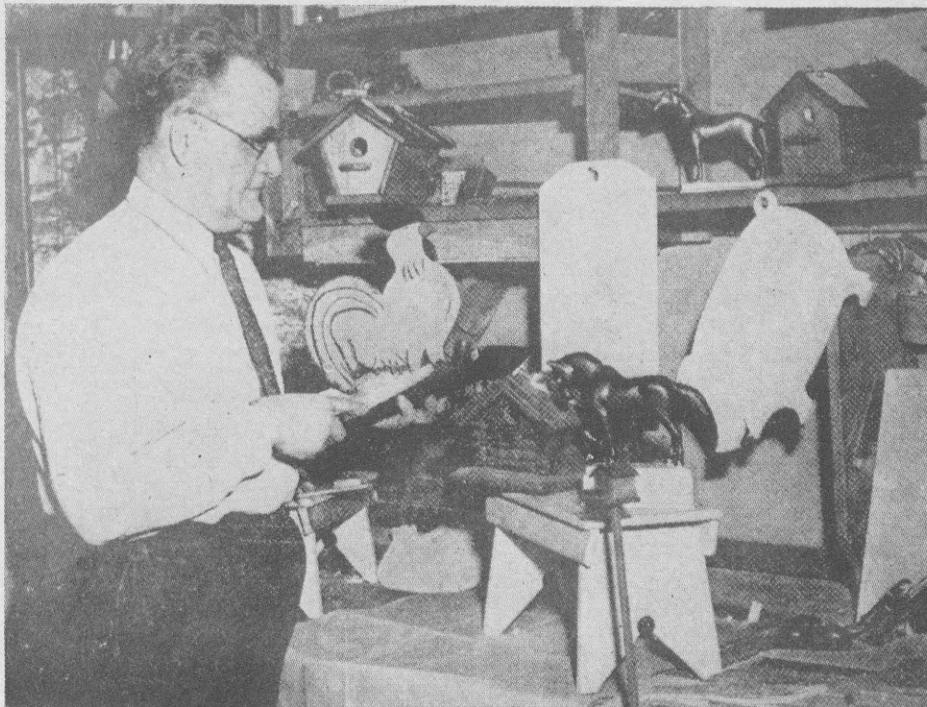
HERE IS THE STORY OF A MAN who faced a world of perpetual darkness and silence with a courage and a faith that are unsurpassed. Living in such a world for more than a half century, he defied almost unbelievable odds, and won over them. During all these years his face reflected a triumphant peace! You cannot read this story without getting a new slant on life, new inspiration, and realizing the many things that you have to feel thankful for. The story of his life is like a shining star in the firmament, an inspiration, an example, and a challenge to all.

It was back in 1916 that I first met John Lauby, one of the staunchest, one of the most patient, one of the noblest of men who has ever breathed the brisk Minnesota air.

Through his dark glasses John Lauby could not see me; his deaf ears could not hear my voice. At first I stood in awe of this broad-shouldered, six-foot man whose face radiated good cheer. His triple handicap did not lessen his love for his fellow-men, his love for his country; his faith in God was never shaken. He was a sincere Christian, a devout church-goer, a man of prayer.

Born deaf in Duluth on March 10, 1877, John Lauby entered the Minnesota School for the Deaf at Faribault in 1887. He was a student at the school until 1896, at which time he lost his sight. He had placed a giant firecracker under a tin can and when it did not go off, he went to investigate. Then the contraption went off with a bang, lacerating Lauby's face and tearing out his right eye. Doctors later found it necessary to remove the left eye, too.

Totally deaf and totally blind the stout spirit of John Lauby was undaunted, undeterred. He asked for a jack-knife, not to harm himself, but



John Lauby with some of his work. Despite his inability to see, he became a skilled woodworker. Visitors always marveled at the beauty of the pieces he produced.

literally to cut out his own salvation, to earn an honest living.

Industrious by nature, John whittled away with his jack-knife, and he soon had a shop of his own. He became very adept in the use of wood-working tools and for half a century and more this man who lived in a world of darkness, a world of silence, earned an honest living by making everything from breadboards, birdhouses, magazine racks, weather vanes, and numerous novelties to roll top desks. I saw the roll top desk he presented to the family with whom he made his home. It was a remarkable piece of work and would have been a credit to any worker with normal sight.

Lauby usually worked in his own shop far from the eyes of a busy world. Once, while visiting relatives in Duluth, a bench was set up for him in the window of a hardware store. There he worked away as unconcernedly as he would have in his own shop. Outside crowds gathered to marvel at his ability and while he was there the police had an additional traffic problem to cope with. It was the only time in his life that John gave the police any trouble.

While Lauby sold articles he made to individuals and friends, the bulk of his output was sold for him by the Minneapolis Society for the Blind at one of the large department stores where sales were held twice yearly. John was always invited to be present at these sales and the store had him as its guest for lunch daily. On these occasions his sense of humor was always in evidence. He said that it felt like Thanksgiving every day and that he was grateful that

he did not have to labor on piece work basis in the afternoon.

During his long career as a wood-worker John turned out thousands upon thousands of articles, each having the finished touch of a master. This despite the fact that he could not read blue prints, could not refer to notes, drawings, or sketches. Everything was stored in his brain. However, before he would begin a project he always had a clear mental picture of what he was undertaking. One time he received an order for a martin bird house from a lady in South Dakota. He was asked whether he remembered seeing such a house in his youth. He did, but refused to go ahead with the work until he could learn something about the construction of such houses. Accordingly, his niece trekked to the library to read up on how to build martin houses. She came back and from the notes she had gathered gave John the details, going over them twice. He then said, "I understand; I have memorized the specifications." He went ahead and made a remarkable house that Mrs. Martin fully appreciated.

On the coffee table of Mrs. Pearl Swanson, of Minneapolis, stands a beautiful blackwood model of a horse carved by John after not having seen a horse for forty years. Mrs. Swanson is a favorite niece of John's. A similar model was sent to the late President, Franklin D. Roosevelt.

One might suppose that a deaf and blind man would have little or no interest in politics or elections. Such was not the case with John Lauby. He voted regularly and was proud of the fact.

Unable to obtain information about candidates and proposals from the radio and papers as ordinary citizens, he diligently questioned his friends so that he might vote intelligently. One of those very close to him was his niece, Mrs. Pearl Swanson. Near election time he would sometimes ask her, "Well, Pearl, for whom are you going to vote?" Her reply would be, "Please don't ask me because I don't want to influence you." The two would then proceed to examine the candidates, their platforms, their background, and their experience. John always went to the polls with a deaf friend in his own precinct and with a little help proudly marked his own X's. The thousands of American citizens who regularly fail to exercise their right to vote will no doubt drop their heads in shame when they hear how a deaf and blind man took advantage of this great American privilege.

One reason for John's popularity, especially among the deaf of Minnesota, was his interest in others and their well-being. He sometimes brought me small novelties or puzzles that he had produced in his shop. One day he brought me a puzzle consisting of an eight-inch dowel through which he had drilled a hole and tied a piece of string. By some sleight of hand he attached it to a buttonhole of my coat and challenged me to take it off. I tried, thought, and sweated for more than fifteen minutes, but could not get it off. John was thoroughly amused at the prospect of my going around wearing the puzzle all day. However, he decided to help me out of my plight and took the thing off in a matter of seconds.

Cedric Adams, famous *Minneapolis Star and Tribune* columnist, recently told a story of how someone inadvertently referred to John as being "deaf and dumb." John, through an interpreter, replied, "Mute, if you don't mind. Lots of people who can talk are dumb." John always had a ready repartee, was quick witted, and enjoyed telling a good joke as well as listening to one.

Lauby was fond of fishing and had various ideas about bringing in members of the finny tribe. One time he brought me a large bobber and asked my opinion as to marketing this on a large scale. It was his idea that with this over-sized bobber a man could stand on the shore and throw it far into the lake, thus fishing without boat, rod, reel, or other expensive paraphernalia.

One time John was fishing with a friend. Being without a rod and reel, something he had long desired, he put his drop line into the lake and settled back to wait. In pulling it up and down, he felt what he thought was more than a nibble and pulled in his line. He was amazed to find at the end a rod and reel. He promptly gave thanks to the Lord

for providing him with this special want in such a novel way.

With the loss of one of the senses it is common that a person makes greater use of the other senses. For example, a deaf person makes more use of his eyes, knowing that his safety on the streets and highways depends to a great degree on his sense of sight. This fact, to a large extent, accounts for the statement by highway officials that the deaf are the world's safest drivers. On the

#### WESLEY LAURITSEN

*became deaf during his teens and attended the Minnesota School for a short time before entering Gallaudet College, where he graduated as valedictorian in 1922. Since leaving college he has been a member of the teaching staff in the Minnesota School. He is one of deafdom's noted writers, some of his work having appeared in national publications. He is editor of the Minnesota Companion, and very active in civic and church affairs in Faribault, where he owns his home.*

*One of Lauritzen's outstanding contributions to the literature on the deaf was a pamphlet entitled The American Deaf, which he compiled while he was chairman of the NAD publicity committee. Thousands of copies of the pamphlet have been distributed in all parts of the nation.*

other hand, a blind man's sense of hearing may become so trained that he can tell the size of a room he enters by the echo of voices or the tap of his cane.

One summer not long ago Lauby, deaf, blind and speechless, was taken for an automobile ride. He thoroughly amused his hosts when on his hands he said, "We're coming to a lake, but it's quite small." They rode for a half mile or so and sure enough a small lake appeared. Later he interrupted the conversation and said, "We're coming to a rather large lake." Sure as the nose on your face they spied one before many minutes had passed. This happened not once, but many times. When asked how he could tell, especially the size of a lake, he replied, "That's easy; by the smell of the fish. If it's faint, it is a small lake; if it's strong, it is a large lake."

The part that the American finger alphabet and the sign language have played in the life of John Lauby cannot be underestimated. Without this method of communication he would not have been able to carry on a conversation and would not have been able to keep up with the rapidly changing events of the world in the way he did.

This method of communication, which is generally used by the deaf of America, has been a real blessing and done much towards helping John receive some satisfaction out of life. By taking hold of the hand of a friend who used the finger alphabet and sign language, Lauby was able to get information almost as rapidly as through the spoken word.

One of Lauby's best friends was his pastor, Reverend J. L. Salvner, D.D., a master of the sign language who is able to bring out all its grace and beauty. For more than a half century this genial gentleman has been ministering to the deaf of Minnesota, and he has given freely of his time to this deaf, blind and speechless member of his congregation. In Pastor Salvner's book of memories there are many interesting stories of John Lauby, one of which we will repeat here in the Pastor's own words: "Many a time I took him with me to mission festivals to lecture on our work among the deaf and then gave a little demonstration with him. One Sunday we were not able to return home and had to stay overnight. The pastor directed us to a bedroom with twin beds. We bade each other "Good night," and began to get ready to slip under the covers. He was a little faster than I and was ready to go to bed before me. But then I noticed that he fell down upon his knees and offered a most beautiful prayer, one that I shall never forget. First he thanked God for the many blessings he again had received that day, especially because he was privileged to go to church. Then he asked that God bless the Word in the hearts of all the deaf and grant that many more might come to learn this Word of salvation and be saved. At the close he prayed for me, his pastor, beseeching God to bless me, to give me strength and courage to carry on. You can imagine what this prayer meant to me, knowing that at least one of my parishioners was down on his knees behind me while I was doing the Lord's work."

On April 13, 1947, the trumpets of heaven sounded loudly to welcome the spirit of John Lauby, whose earthly life expired on that day. John has left us, but he has not been and he will not be forgotten. His habits of industry, his cheerfulness in a life of darkness and silence will ever serve as an inspiration to all who have known him, for he was a man who had defied almost unbelievable odds to prove that patience, perseverance, and dominant courage can win out. His achievement in spite of discouraging handicaps is an inspiring challenge to all persons possessed of normal hearing and sight. His life proves that a man determined to succeed just can't be downed.

# Florita Dancing Star

by JERRY FAIL

IN OLD MEXICO, in the year 1922, a bright and shining star danced merrily. Yes, we are very sure that a star danced over the little Mexican town of Cananea the night that laughing dark-eyed, raven-tressed Florita Tellez was born. Perhaps Florita and Zarias Tellez knew it too, for Florita — named for her mother — from the day she was able to toddle showed an amazing aptitude for the dance.

The last of fifteen brothers and sisters, Florita was the only one of the fifteen to become deaf. At the age of two years, Florita went through a siege of whooping cough which left her totally deaf. Several years later, her parents died and most of her brothers and sisters, all of whom were natives of Tucson, Arizona, were scattered. Florita made her home with one of her brothers in Tucson who taught her the complicated dances of her native land, and when she entered the Tucson school for the deaf at the age of 9, her unique talent was developed and nurtured at the Cusick Dancing School. It was during her lessons at the Cusick school that Florita first met Jose Cota who was later to be her dancing partner.

Florita was happy during her school days at the Tucson school. She was a member of Tucson's all-girl tumbling team which became quite well-known locally and put on an exhibition at the San Francisco World's Fair on Treasure Island. On that team were many of her present day acquaintances, Madge Carnes Peeples of Downey, California; Naomi Leper Christensen of Long Beach, California; Amelia Granillo; Sybil Michot; Berdean Shumway; Chrisoula Paulos; and the Director, Miss Rae Martino of Tucson.

But those happy days were destined to come to an abrupt end when at only 17 Florita found it necessary to leave school and become self-supporting. Enrolling immediately in a college of beauty culture, she completed the prescribed course and quickly found employment in a Tucson beauty shop where she worked for years, meanwhile continuing her studies at the dancing school.

Came World War 2 and Florita teamed up with Jose Cota for USO

tours. Jose and Florita were featured in Arizona's Fifth War Bond Cavalcade, a 10-act variety show which toured the state appearing in Phoenix, Tucson, Wickenburg, Prescott, Williams, Buckeye, Ash Fork, Safford, Globe, Superior, Mesa, Kingman and Tempe and performing before some 20,000 people and responsible for the sale of \$1,137,215.00 in war bonds.

Phoenix's Fox Theatre billed them as "Jose and Florita" and admission was the purchase of a war bond. The pair toured all over the country giving shows for thousands of service men at Luke Field, William Field, Thunderbird Fields Nos. 1 and 2, Camp Horn, Camp Hyder, Falcon Field (RAF) and visiting hospitals throughout the state. They were under the direction of Phoenix entertainment head Newton Brunson.

In "Arizona Trailways" magazine for December 1946 there appeared a really striking photograph of Jose and Florita in the colorful costumes of old Mexico and which advertised the yearly trek to Arizona's Superstition Mountain. The pair appeared anywhere and everywhere in entertainments directed toward the promotion of war bond sales and together they sold thousands of dollars worth of bonds.

During the 1947 National Fraternal Convention in Los Angeles visitors from all over the U. S. and Canada and Mexico were enthralled when Florita and Jose appeared on the stage of Earl Carroll's Theatre Restaurant in Hollywood and gave two striking performances for the delighted audience. With her flowing mane of midnight black hair, her laughing dark eyes shining above the flashing, vivid hues of her sequin costume, Florita convinced us that really and truly... a star danced over Cananea the night that she was born.

In the spring of 1948 Florita journeyed to Philadelphia to attend the current basketball tournament and during her stay, paid a visit to Gallaudet College, where she yielded graciously to the pleas of the students there for a performance of her native dances. Florita specializes in both ancient and modern Spanish and Mexican dancing including the South American Tango, Rhumba and Conga.

This petite and charming young lady claims Phoenix as her home for it was there that her career began. For the past two years Florita made her home in Los Angeles and her career seemed to lapse. She worked in a beauty shop where she had a large following because of her deft arrangements of intriguing hair-dos, her unerring knowledge of hair styling and just what coiffure would look best on certain types. Her own beautiful hair is her best advertising. It is very black... so black, indeed, as to seem blue.

At this writing Florita has moved to San Francisco where Jose Cota has been living for several years. She attended the Perry Theatrical Studio in Hollywood two evenings a week all during her Los Angeles sojourn and her teachers were very enthusiastic and urged her to continue her career. So Florita has moved to San Francisco and she and Jose will again become the dancing team so well known in Phoenix.

Florita is small. She is beautiful in the way of all Mexico's native daughters, sweet and unassuming despite her many successes and the tributes that have been paid her. She makes friends easily and quickly... her quiet retiring manner is one of her most charming assets. She is the kind of young woman you enjoy knowing, and if you are a susceptible male, she is the kind of girl you would be mighty proud to squire around. The other guys would gaze upon you in green-eyed wonder. But your chances are not very good... Florita is wholly absorbed in her career. She wrote us just recently that she loves San Francisco and the people who live there. And they'll love her too when local theatres begin billing "JOSE AND FLORITA" on their marqueses very soon. They will take her to their hearts just as did Los Angeles and Phoenix... just as did countless GI's who probably never did learn that the lovely little entertainer couldn't hear one spoken word... whose innate sense of rhythm was all that enabled her to match the intricate routines of Jose Cota. Certainly, for Florita, deafness has never been a handicap.

Yes, Florita, you've hitched your wagon to a star... a dancing star!



This Month 88 Years Ago . . . MARCH, 1861

## THE GALLAUDET GUIDE, AND DEAF MUTES' COMPANION.

An Independent Monthly Journal --- Devoted to the Interests of Deaf Mutes.

Reviewed by HELEN L. STEWART

OHIO'S STORY, in the January 1949 issue of THE SILENT WORKER, was, after all, just a phase of history repeating itself, for, trite as the saying may be, "there's nothing new under the sun." What surprises us most is to see the deaf, at least the editor of the *Gallaudet Guide*, on the wrong side of the fence, for they were wholly in accord with all opinions expressed in the article, "Home and Social Education of the Deaf and Dumb, and the Blind". It is much too lengthy to repeat here, except for excerpts.

"The Rev. Dr. Chalmers, in his well-known 'Bridgewater Treatise', points out that when man, in his ignorance, but well-intentioned benevolence, establishes any institution or scheme in opposition to the Divine Plan for the moral government of society... not only will he signally fail, but lay the foundation of aggravated mischief and suffering. In no instance is the truth of this assertion more evident than in the state of privation and suffering of the 17,000 deaf and dumb, and the 3,000 blind existing in our own country. In their day the exile institutions for the deaf and dumb, as well as for the blind, established and endowed by the genuine benevolence of those who have passed away, have done much good; but when we come to examine the results, we find that they have not only perpetuated, but in a great degree aggravated the very evils they were designed to eradicate."

"The first exile school for the deaf and dumb was founded in Paris by the well-known Abbe de l'Epee... yet scarcely had sixty years passed away before the mischievous results and thorough failure of this system were so evident that the municipality of Paris, about five years since, on the recommendation of the Central Board of Instruction, voted liberal supplies for the more enlightened and far more economical scheme of social education of the deaf and dumb, as

well as the blind, in the ordinary schools with those who could hear and see, and with whom they must associate in the labor-market of after life... or become private or public paupers. These exiled deaf and dumb exert an unsocializing, and consequently pauperizing, influence on their families. In these exile schools for the deaf, rooted up from home and social influences, of which they have far greater need than their more fortunate five-sensed brothers and sisters, they are immured during the most important period of their lives... a barbarous system which accustoms the parents and other relatives to throw off the unfortunates... view them as aliens... and get rid of them in after life in asylums and union houses."

All this was taken from a foreign paper, the *Clerkenwell News*, April 25, 1860. There is no indication whether it is a paper for the deaf, but there are plenty of disparaging remarks about our beloved Abbe de l'Epee.

"In the education of the deaf and dumb, Scotland produced George Delgarno, the inventor of the finger-alphabet, buried, perhaps, scarcely known where, in one of the churches of Oxford, whilst the Abbe de l'Epee has his monument in the Church of St. Roch, at Paris, with the finger-alphabet on it, invented by Delgarno years before!"

"A paper read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Liverpool by Mr. Buxton, principal of the deaf and dumb school of that city, gives the results ascertained of the offspring of 310 deaf and dumb, each of whom married a healthy five-sensed partner. The proportion of deaf mutes in the whole of these families was only one in 135. The case was very different when 303 deaf and dumb males were married to 303 deaf and dumb females. In this latter case the proportion of deaf mute offspring was one in 20, or al-

most seven times as many.... When both parents are deaf and dumb they can neither educate nor control their children...."

The editor of the *Gallaudet Guide* expresses some opinions of his own. "We have lately received notices to discontinue the *Guide*—all, or nearly all, from one locality. We know not the reasons... but if some men wish to kill the *Guide* because the editor has been independent enough to advocate the establishment of a school for deaf mute children in Massachusetts, they wish to do an evil thing.... No man does now, or ever can control the *Guide* while we edit it.... We cannot be bought, coaxed, or driven. If our sentiments should prove distasteful to the Gallaudet Association, we cheerfully concede their right to remove us at any time."

Robert Hickson, a deaf mute artist of Hull, in England, excelled in making faithful copies of pictures of the best masters. This employment, not offering sufficient gains in a small maritime town, he had hired himself out as a porter to a coal merchant. Married about ten years and father of a little girl eight years old, he had lived happily with his family till the attentions of one Charles Richardson to his wife, Sarah, brought discord between them. His jealousy showed itself on every occasion. One evening he returned home wet through by the rain. He demanded a change of clothes. Sarah Hickson replied, "We are not rich enough for you to change your clothes twice a day. Dry yourself as best you can."

"That started the quarrel, and he accused her of walking out with Richardson. His wife responded by abuse in pantomime. Hickson, unable to restrain his rage, seized a poker and struck his wife four or five blows. She fell dead by the fire. The unhappy man then took a razor and cut his own throat. Their child witnessed the horrible scene."

The person sending the clipping from the *Gazette des Tribunaux*, Nov. 26, 1841, in a letter to the editor of the *Guide* admonishes deaf mutes not to marry without the means of supporting a family, and especially not to marry a woman, who, loving to talk with her tongue much better than with her fingers, will excite the jealousy of her husband by preferring the conversation of men who can hear.

# The Good Old Silent Days

Expounded by CRUTCH

**I**N EXPOUNDING THE PROFUNDITIES to follow, the erudite readers of this transcendental magazine for the deaf and their friends will please be advised it most definitely is not the aim of the expounder to disparage the altruistic efforts of Hahny Lil and Goody Caroline and Strickly Norma, editor and assistants, respectively, of THE SILENT WORKER Movie Guide Department, as they earnestly endeavor from month to month to keep THE SILENT WORKER movie-going readers (hereinafter to be referred to as the "SWmgr") posted as to which movies are the best uns to go to and which uns ain't.

On the contrary, your favorite expounder thinks the little girlies deserve a great big hand for handling the picture piloting pages so commendably.

However, by limiting their talents to the moving pictures and ignoring the popularity of immobile pictures, he thinks their sterling services are being too much devoted to too small a minority of the S.W. readers. He jealously postulates there are too few SWmgr's to rate so much devotion.

He thinks in thus catering to this inconsequential minority group, they are callously neglecting our vast majority group, which comprises all of us S.W. readers who, since the silent pictures went oral, quit patronizing the movie emporiums, except on rare and special occasions, preferring instead to derive our picture divertissement from the quiescent and better understandable comic strips of our daily newspapers, plus the colored Sunday supplements.

He thinks some consideration and space should be shown and allotted to this majority group, rather than letting the minority group hog it all, as they are doing now.

The perspicacious readers will please note your meticulous expounder's reference so far has been only to the SW reader movie-going group, not to deaf movie-goers in general. There's a difference.

Outside the SWmgr realm Deafdom is infested with a plethora of psychiatrist

According to Crutch, here shown contributing his bit to the improvement of Sunday morning literature, Jiggs and Popeye are two comic characters who have seen better days.



HENRY CRUTCHER

Guide Department, as they earnestly endeavor from month to month to keep THE SILENT WORKER movie-going readers (hereinafter to be referred to as the "SWmgr") posted as to which movies are the best uns to go to and which uns ain't.

cases—mostly females, of course—who absorb their mental pabulum from the present-day sound movies. These they attend with unfailing regularity, seemingly extracting the identical quintessence of rhapsody out of them all, be they comedies, tragedies, romances, westerns, "who-dun-its", or what have you.

For a long time your wondering expounder has regarded this type of 2-or-3-or-more-times-a-week deaf moviegoer with amazement, bordering upon awe! How can they, who can't even grasp the import of a four-inch page-wide newspaper heading, sit enrapt for three hours absorbed in a sound movie, while he himself, with his superior intellect (is so) can view the same movie and not be able to fathom what the hot hinges of the doors of Hades it is all about?

And, where do they get the money to go to um?

These questions bothered him so much it got so he couldn't sleep for puzzling over them. So, one insomnia night he jumped out of bed and, without even taking time to un-don the purple pajama-

mas aunt Effie gave him last Xmas, started out on a data-gathering pilgrimage. His research took years and millions of miles of peregrinations, in the course of which he visited every feeble-minded institute and insane asylum in this country, Canada and Mexico before finally solving 50% of the problems yesterday, precisely at noon, 1949.

It seems this type of movie-goers enjoy the sound pictures just as well as they did the silent pictures in the old days for the simple reason they never really understood the plots, except in a vague way, of the old silents any better than they do those of today's sound movies. The explanatory captions and sub titles, interspersed with leaders thrown upon the old silent screens at intervals to keep the optience abreast of the screen activities, were regarded by them as mere bothersome superfluities interrupting the continuity of the pictures. With the coming of sound pictures and resultant elimination of these explanatory titles, etc., which we dumber deaf had hitherto depended upon for enlightenment, the movies became, for the most part, meaningless to us. Whereas, these brighter-than-we-are type, who never paid attention to the titles, etc., anyhow, far from missing them, are glad not to have them interrupting the pictures any more.

As to where they get the money to go to um, your baffled expounder never did find out.



Personally, the only movie your lackadaisical expounder has attended within the last two years was "Johnny Belinda". To get him to go to that one, took excessive urging by the entire deaf intelligentsia of Detroit—both of them.

He admits it was a never-forgettable and most touching play. He particularly appreciated that scene showing the good doc initiating Belinda into the mysteries of the sign language. First indicating to her the manual symbol for "rooster" (also for Frat prex, Roberts—right "3" thumb touching front of the noggin), and following it up with signs for "chicken", "egg", "water", "earth", and so on. And, he wondered wherever on earth Dr. Lew Ayres got hold of that book of the sign language by the Abby of the Eppy?

Too, he was assailed with lachrymose emotions as he observed the bleak blank look of non-comprehension leave Belinda's eyes under the doctor's tutoring and, into them instead, come the luminous light of joyous understanding as, lo and behold! she became cognizant for the first time in her life that the sign for "rooster" was the same as the sign for Frat Roberts.

Yes, your pleasantly-surprised expounder found the plot delightfully easy to follow, and fervently enjoyed everything about the play right up to the end, except the admission price in the beginning.

Indeed, so favorably was he impressed with Jane Wyman in the role of Belinda that he went right home and sat right down and wrote to Jane, asking her to marry him. (He hasn't heard from her yet, and can't understand the delay.) (*The editorial executive of this publication wrote to her first.—Ed.*)

The only fault your critical expounder found with the plot was, he thought it arrant nonsense to have her lose her memory following the brutal attack. The way he misconstrued that particular part as he watched was: such was her innocence and unsophistication at the time, she failed to place any connection between the attack and the coming of the baby many months later.

A reported rehearsal story was the only other phase of the picture to disconcert your expounder. The fantastic claim was made by some nut that Jane Wyman became so skillful at reading the lips during the rehearsals with cotton in her ears (to achieve the desired "deaf expression") that her constant involuntary eavesdropping of surrounding lips at social occasions has proved most embarrassing to her since.

Most interesting—if true.

Your incredulous expounder, who has tried for around thirty-five years (without success) to master the labial art, finds it hard to believe Jane could become so proficient in about that many

days. However, he never once thought about sticking cotton in his ears. He's ordering a bale tomorrow.

While "Johnny Belinda" is the only movie your indifferent expounder has attended within the last two years, there was a time when he was a rabid movie fan. That was in the good old days of the Silents: *Worker* (No. 1) and the movies, both of which passed into desuetude about the same time.

In the good old silent days willow switches periodically applied to juvenile boddums took care of delinquency; Communism was unheard of; prices were so pleasantly un-high, you didn't have to hock your fountain pen and wrist watch after taking your sweet patootie to a movie.

In the John Bunny era adult admission prices to the flickers were as low as a dime (snotty-noses 5c) and, even as late as the Clara Bow period, two-bits (25c).

Too, a nickel got you a hot dog or an icecream soda; a dime fetched you a banana split, and \$9.99 was the price

Crutch certainly deserves an introduction to the readers for this stupendous effort. Trouble is, the effort was so stupendous that no room remains for the introduction—which will appear in a later issue.

of a perfectly elegant suit of clothes, which lasted forever—if you didn't get caught in the rain.

There was no income tax in the good old silent days. No luxury tax. Three-cent stamps were two cents, and gals wore petticoats instead of overalls and slacks.

What is more, those good old fashioned silent movie fan gals had hearts of gold. They either walked with you or took streetcars (fare 5c) to and from the cinemas. And, if your personal exchequer rated even lower than the then low double admission prices, your gal often would volunteer to pay for her own ticket.

Furthermore, if the soft silvery moon hung just right as you plied her with blandishments, she could be lulled into such a sympathetic mood over your doleful tale of insolvency that she was easily induced to purchase both tickets, to say nothing of a couple of chocklet sodas and a bag of popcorn at the corner drugstore after the show.

Just try to get one of today's gold-digging sound-picture gal fans to do anything like that. Just try!

No, she expects you to cart her in a taxi (\$1.10 plus tip) to some million-bulb movie palace guarded by a retired general in full regalia, and pay for both tickets (\$1.70, up).

After the show just try to get your raspberry-lipsticked, permanent-waved,

fur-coated floozie to patronize a drug-store soda fountain or the hamburger stand around the corner.

No, she'll only stick a supercilious kalsomined snout up in the air and suggest some ritzy joint, where she orders an apertif (55c) and a 12-inch lobster, or some other fancy vittle costing (you) \$2.50, plus a pack of gold-tipped cigarettes (44c). Having gobbled, she terminates your agony by ordering an old fashioned sour (65c) to wash down what crumbs are left sticking to her epiglottis.

Then, its "Hey!" for a cab again; home again; and—broke again.

But, my! how your pensive expounder, in ruminating over the good old silent days and contrasting them with these cuss-ed sound picture days, has rambled from the topical path of the early paragraphs.

To return to his contention that Lilly and Cal ain't done right by our majority contingent of the Movie Guide readers, the devotees of the comic strips:

Now that their attention has been called to their dereliction in this matter, he thinks it is only fit and proper that THE SILENT WORKER and Movie Guide executives get their heads together and figure out some way to add a Comic Strip Division to the Movie Guide Department. And, having done this, thereafter have all the comic strips reviewed as now they do the movies, and keep us advised which strips they consider the best uns for us to gander at and which uns to skip.

While he has been somewhat critical, your benevolent expounder wishes the SW editor to assure Lilly and Cal he ain't mad at em for having neglected us in the past.

He knows such negligence was mere youthful thoughtlessness; that they didn't mean to injure our feelings; that, being the breed of these sound movie attum boom days, the matter of adding a C.S. Div. to the M.G. Dept. may never even have occurred to them. Or, if it did occur, left them in a quandary as to just how to go about it.

Your heroic expounder now flies to the rescue of maids in a quandary.

Well, girlies, no use running to the library in search of a volume on the Technic of Comic Strip Reviewing. They aint none. Your knowing expounder will enlighten you.

To begin with, you pick out at random or unrandom half a dozen or six coming comic strips for your critical review and type the gist of them and your opinion of same and publish the results, together with your rating, in the C.S. Div. of the M.G. Dept.

You rate them thus: 1 star, passable; 2 stars, fair; 3 stars, good; 4 stars, excellent; shooting star, super; meteor, super-duper; comet, super super-duper;

comets-tail, rotten; partial eclipse, putrid; full eclipse, stinks.

Thisaway:

HENRY. Comedy. Excellently conceived, admirably executed. The creator of this strip is said to be over 70 years old and deaf, but not a dactologist. Henry, always baldheaded and undershirted, generally emerges triumphant in his many droll encounters—except with Henrietta. By all means, follow this strip daily. Shooting star.

SAD SACK. Tragedy. Gobs of pathos. Po' ole Sack! Always starts out whistling in the first picture, but inevitably winds up with a kick in the pants in the last. 4 stars.

(The following expresses the impurely personal opinion of the criterion (who since has been fired) and in no wise should be construed as reflecting the views of this magazine.—Ed.)

JIGGS. Supposed to be funny. Use to was; aint now. See one strip and you see em all. The originator of this strip hasn't had an original idea since Gallaudet was founded. Same old hogwash every day: Jiggs, a retired self-made man, retaining low brow tastes, cruelly dominated by his wife, Maggie (formerly a laundry worker, now a social climber, who howls like a hound when she sings), wants to go to Dinty Moore's to eat corned beef and cabbage with the boys. Maggie says, "NO!" Jiggs sneaks out anyhow. Has fancy time. Crossing the threshold on his return home at 3:00 a.m. he is conked on the noggin by a rolling pin, flat iron, urn, skillet, or other missile hurled by Maggie. Don't waste time on this comet's-tail strip.

BLONDIE. Dagwood loves Blondie so much he doesn't know or care that he is henpecked. Dagwood usually starts out in the first picture taking a nap 'on the couch, but Blondie always makes him wipe the dishes in the last. Next to Blondie, Dagwood loves octagon-decker sandwiches, sleeping, reading-in-the-bath (door never locked), their two kids and five pups, in order named. Neighbor, Woody, also lends occasional spice to the strip. Note, deaf peddlers: Dagwood hates peddlers. A galaxy of fun. Meteor. (Ed. note No. 3: See note No. 2.)

DOTTY DRIPPLE. A plain plagiarism of the Blondie strip, but generally worth looking over, nevertheless. 3 stars.

MOON MULLINS. Burlesque. A riot of hilarity in every strip. Cast of English-language-murdering characters: Banjo-eyed Moon, himself; Kayo, the angel kid; Lord Plushbottom, imposed-upon husband of scrawny Lady Plushbottom (Emmy) with a face that would stop a clock; irresponsible checker-at-tired Uncle Willie, sadly henpecked by his buxom wife, Mamie; and Birdie, the beautiful boarder, with whom all the



Dagwood Bumstead, like so many right-thinking Americans, loathes peddlers.

male characters are in love, to say nothing of a couple of hard-looking non-boarding characters. However, we are betting on Moon to bring home the bacon, or rather, Birdie. Don't miss a strip. It's a comet. (Ed. note No. 4: See ed. note No. 3. Also, where is Little Egypt?)

POP EYE. Travesty. This was one of the most popular strips ever originated, but sad to say, the originator died a few years ago. Since then this strip has deteriorated into a cheap unfunny travesty. Spinach-loving Pop Eye, his gal, Olive Oyle, and hamburger-hungry Wimpy now are characters fit to amuse only persons with the low IQ's of the non-SW-subscribing deaf. The presumably correspondence school cartoonists now illustrating this strip should be assassinated. Don't look at this strip. Don't touch it. Don't smell it. It's a Full Eclipse.

See, girlies? Thataway.

Of course there will be a few other minor details to work out before the Comic Strip Division can be expected to function properly.

For one thing, it will entail publishing the SW every day instead of monthly, if we are to be kept up to date on the consecutive strips as they come out in the papers daily.

Also, the SW management will have to arrange with the comic strip syndicates to admit Lil and Cally into their studios to gape over the cartoonists' shoulders as they work on the originals a week or two before they are distributed to the newspapers if their reviews are to get into print and the SW mailed in time to reach us exactly the morning of the day the strips that wuz looked over the shoulders at of the cartoonists in the studios as was drawing em appear in the paper of that day's afternoon when the newsboy throws it at the front porch. Or, is this getting a little too involved for you?

Now, please don't annoy your busy expounder by asking him how these minor details he mentioned can be worked out.

He mustn't be bothered with trivia. His is the promotional or administrative type, rather than the executive. He concerns himself only with outlining the campaigns and formulating the policies of prodigious projects his mind conceives, and leaves it to the proper executive parties to carry out all petty details. Just as he is stepping out of this project now and leaving these here uns to be carried out by the SW executives.

(We carried them out—in the wastebasket.—SW Exec.)



This beautiful bit of Spanish architecture, until recently one of the main buildings at the Louisiana School, is due to be razed and replaced by a modern structure.

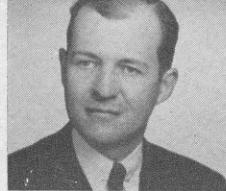
The following article about the Louisiana School for the Deaf by Mrs. Lillian R. Jones who is the Supervising Teacher of the Primary Department in

that school shows a picture that is representative of our better residential schools for the deaf. Naturally, schools vary with the varying conditions in different parts of the country.

The number and kinds of trade training offered will differ, the machinery for job placement follows a different form, and the emphasis on the different kinds of extra-curricular activities as well as the regular curriculum offerings varies from state to state and school to school. But in spite of minor variations, most of the schools are engaged in educating the whole deaf child, and doing the best they can for every child in the school.

A school can only be as good as its staff and the leadership provided for the staff. The Louisiana School is fortunate in having a staff of high caliber and progressive leadership which is in the hands of Mr. Spencer Phillips, the Superintendent, Mr. Dwight Reeder, the Principal, and Mrs. Jones.—R. G. Brill.

The vocational program in the Louisiana State School for the Deaf had its beginning in the spring of 1858 when its first superintendent, J. S. Brown, was able to persuade the members of the State Legislature to appropriate the sum of \$1500.00 for the purchase of a printing press and a few fonts of type. Mr. Brown himself donated a special font of type to be used in printing books for the blind pupils who at that time were housed in the same building with the deaf. In making his plea for the appro-



RICHARD G. BRILL

## The Educational Front...

RICHARD G. BRILL, Editor

# Louisiana School for the Deaf

by MRS. LILLIAN R. JONES

priation, the superintendent urged the fact that at least nine-tenths of the pupils in the school would ultimately be compelled to become self-supporting, since almost half of them at the time were orphans; he urged further that printing would furnish work on such a high plane and of so much interest that even the sons of Southern gentlemen would find it pleasant and profitable to learn!

From such a small and apologetic beginning, the print shop thus established has expanded into a modern shop, occupying almost 500 square feet of floor space, equipped with three linotypes, three job presses, one of which is automatic, a cylinder press, power paper cutter, Elrod and Ludlow machines, and all the other paraphernalia which goes into the efficient functioning of an up-to-date printing plant, and the emphasis on vocational work has increased to such an extent that the average pupil above twelve years of age spends almost one-third of his school hours in the vocational department. The same trades are taught within the school that are customarily taught in other schools for the deaf, with emphasis always on the practical. The printing department furnishes all the printed forms used in the work of the school, as well as guiding the pupils through the course of study as set up by the International Typographical Union.

The shoe shop does all shoe and leather repair work for the School for the Blind as well as the School for the Deaf, as both these schools are under the direction of the same superintendent, although on different campuses. The clothing classes begin using their knowledge of sewing in the making of garments for themselves as soon as a few of the fundamental skills of sewing are acquired. Girls in these classes learn to shop for their own materials and patterns, to follow pattern guides, and to cut out and make clothing for themselves and for other pupils in the school. Pupils of every age in the school group model clothing made during the year at the annual Spring Fashion Show, which is one of the high points of the school year.

In the Foods department the girls eat the delectable dishes they prepare in their daily lessons, and on several occa-

sions during the year have practice in planning, cooking and serving more or less elaborate meals. Small luncheons are given for specially invited guests from time to time, and larger affairs, such as the annual Athletic banquet or the Junior-Senior dinner, are matters of routine. The woodworking department does a minimum of repair jobs on the campus, devoting the time and energy of the group to following a series of planned teaching activities. And thus in all the other departments teaching vocational work.

Of especial interest in the work of the department is the great stress placed upon the teaching of language. Vocational and academic teachers in the school have long been aware of the problem of making language useful and usable in the shop as well as in the classroom. Some of the vocational teachers are deaf themselves and, understanding the problem, know from experience how to deal with it. Others in the group are trained academic teachers who have transferred to the vocational department, and use more or less traditional methods of teaching language, much the same as action work is taught in the primary department language work. Teachers from both groups have attended special education classes in language teaching offered at the State University by visiting principals and supervising teachers from other schools for the deaf. All vocational teachers in the school now teach language as well as shop procedures, and the results of such teaching are hearteningly apparent in the language progress.

The vocational counselor has his office in the vocational building and works closely with the pupils and teachers in the school. He begins his counseling with the sixteen-year-olds, studying their aptitudes and abilities, finding part-time employment for some while they are yet in school and full-time employment for them as they leave. He makes opportunities for certain of the older pupils to have on-the-job training during their last year or two in school, whereby they may spend a portion of each day in the classroom attending language, reading and arithmetic classes, and the remainder of the day working in business establishments in the city under his direction. He finds

summertime employment for a group of from twenty to thirty of the older teen-age pupils, and keeps in close contact with them as they live in the school dormitories, supervised by school authorities, and earn spending money or even money for the necessities during the summer months.

This on-the-job phase of training is considered especially important by the officers of the school. The transition from the protected life within an institution to the hurly-burly of the bright lights and temptations of "the outside world" seems quick and tragic at times. The opportunity to begin working while yet studying, to have less restraint, yet not be completely free from kindly curbs, and to have counsel and advice immediately available in making the first adjustments to adult living has proven of inestimable value to the older pupils in the school.

Academic departments in the better schools vary but little less widely than do the vocational departments.

The visual aids department in the Louisiana School has received more and more emphasis in recent years, with the hope that the appeal to the eye of the profoundly deaf child should in some measure take the place of the extra boost the partially deafened receive from their hearing-aids. One teacher devotes two-thirds of each day to work in the visual aids room, showing educational films, preparing materials, and helping with the classes which come to the room for instruction.

The school has two 16mm. motion picture projectors which show films occasionally booked from commercial companies as well as films booked from the five nearby State owned film depositories. During the 1947-48 session of school 78 films were shown in the school in connection with classroom work. The two 35mm. film projectors are also in frequent use. The films the school owns for these projectors are of easy access to the teachers; and of almost equally easy access are the films in the large parish film library directly across the street from the school. (In Louisiana, the *parish* is used to designate the governmental unit elsewhere called the *county*.)

Three lantern-slide projectors are used daily, the most popular being the one used with a flash-meter attachment. This machine has an automatic time-set, whereby material on slides may be exposed on the screen for as brief a period of time as 1/100th of a second, or for any fractional part of a minute up

Louisiana's print shop, shown at right, is probably one of the best equipped in the country; student-printers are above the average in skill. The other picture shows the students enjoying a spring formal.

to one full minute. Two opaque projectors make possible the use of an abundance of material that teachers may find in magazines, text and reference books, and on postcards. These are useful in teaching history and geography.

The school library is visited at least once weekly by each of the younger classes in school above the second year class; older classes have access to the library at any time. In addition to keeping the library in order, checking books out and in, advising with pupils about what books they may profitably read, and ordering new books, the librarian keeps at least one interesting exhibit always on display, changing the material often enough to keep interest high. About three hundred new books come into the school library annually, either as replacements for worn out favorite editions or as fresh material for the reading shelves. These are in addition to the new books or replacements.

Each year Gates Reading Tests are given all children above the second year, and Stanford Achievement Tests are given those above the first grade. A comparative study of the results of the testing program compiled recently from among a group of cooperating schools from widely scattered sections of the country attested the effectiveness of the

academic program in the school. Two pupils from the graduating class of last year went to Gallaudet College this fall, while a third member of the class is attending Kendall School, finishing up his college preparatory work.

The Louisiana School has for many years followed the plan of sending its pupils to the various churches in town for religious training. The largest denominational group in the school, approximately half of the student body, is of the Catholic faith. These pupils attend mass and catechism classes. One-third of the pupils in the school come from Baptist homes. There are relatively few Methodists attending the Louisiana School, and a scattering of other denominations among the school family. Volunteer workers from the school teach in the separate departments for the deaf in these three above-named churches, holding regular Sunday teaching services and training for church membership. Each year a selected group of Catholic communicants make their first communions and are later confirmed; each year a group of Baptist boys and girls unite with a local Baptist church; and from time to time, as circumstances warrant, girls and boys from the Methodist class unite with their church.

(Continued on next page)



While such a plan cannot provide sufficient teachers for as well-graded instruction as would be possible were the pupils to remain with their week-day teachers for Sunday work, it is felt that what the pupils may lose in graded learning they gain in feeling themselves an integral part of the life of their church. And certainly such a plan provides teachers who are deeply interested in the spiritual welfare of those whom they are teaching.

The Louisiana School has been particularly fortunate in the health of its pupils through the years. During the ninety-six years of its existence, with a total of over sixteen hundred pupils enrolled, there have been but five known deaths among the pupils of school age, with two of these occurring at home during the summer vacation and a third at school from a progressive disorder present at the birth of the individual.

The school maintains a hospital service with two nurses on duty. In rare periods of emergency, extra nurses are employed as needed. A doctor visits the school each morning; a dentist spends one day each week in the school dental clinic. Children reported to the school nurse as needing glasses are taken to the school optician for check-up.

Mid-morning milk is served at recess time in the primary building, and immediately after school every afternoon the little children line up for cookies, fruit, or a bit of candy. Regular monthly weighings are a matter of routine, and in between times, any child who seems not quite up to par physically, whether listless, drowsy, or complaining even slightly of an ache or pain, is sent immediately to the hospital at any hour of the day or night. The authorities in the school believe that in taking care of minor disorders promptly, more serious disabilities may be prevented later on. This extra precaution has paid great dividends in the physical welfare of the group.

Outside the regular hours of school, the activities of the pupils are many and varied. Although hampered somewhat in the past very few years because of crowded conditions in the dormitories, nevertheless the pupils have many interesting things to do.

Located only a few blocks from the heart of the city, they have easy access to the shopping district, and are allowed with parental permission to go and come to that area as freely as do their brothers and sisters at home. They attend movies in town on Saturday afternoons and—this being a school where more than half the children are Catholics—on certain Sundays.

The football season at the nearby State University furnishes thrills aplenty through the football season as

## Mr. Sowell's Book

Reviewed by DR. GEORGE M. MCCLURE



JAMES SOWELL

Another name has been added to the list of deaf writers of meritorious verse; with the publication of an attractively printed and bound volume of poems by James W. Sowell of Omaha, Nebraska. Friends have long known that he possesses decided talent in this line, but little from his pen has appeared in print of late years.

The book is not available to the general public as it was privately printed for distribution among close friends. Its title, which is also its dedication, is "To Her I Love"—it is a memorial to a noble and brilliant woman

"Steel true and blade-straight,  
The Great Artificer made my mate."

who was his helpmate for almost half a century. She, in life, and in memories of her, later, was the inspiration of many of the finest poems in the volume. There was romance in their union; they had been college mates at Gallaudet, and when Maud Brisendine departed from Washington after her graduation it was as the bride of her girlhood sweetheart, Mr. Sowell.

The book is divided into six sections: the first to "Her" after her

passing, the second to "Her" while she was still in the flesh. One hesitates to intrude here with quotation or comment, and passes to the main body of the book, the third and fourth sections which are "Miscellaneous Poems", and "War Poems", respectively. It is on these that Mr. Sowell's reputation as a writer of verse will probably rest; they cover a wide range, the rhythm is musical (there are a few poems in blank verse), and the style easy and natural. Several of them, "The Law of the Yukon," for instance, are worthy of a place in the anthologies that are sold in the bookstores.

Many years ago Dr. Edward Miner Gallaudet, at that time President of Gallaudet College, contributed a notable article, "The Poetry of the Deaf", to *Harper's Magazine*. In it he quoted with approval from the works of a number of deaf poets, and pointed out that it is quite possible for one whose ears are sealed to sound to write pleasing verse. He also pointed out the chief stumbling block in the way of the deaf person who attempts to write verse, the meter has a tendency to be faulty. But Mr. Sowell has not been bothered by this handicap.



MAUD SOWELL  
"Steel true and  
blade-straight"

around one hundred of the older girls and boys are taken to see each of the games played on the campus throughout the season. They sit in a group in the same section each game, and always in nearby seats are alumni.

Movies are shown in the school gymnasium each weekend throughout the school year when there are no other special occasions interfering. Swimming parties in the big swimming pool are always popular. At other times there may be bowling in the school's own alleys, or billiards or shuffleboard in the game rooms. Socials, literary societies, Athletic Association meetings, furnish lesser outlets for energies. The student body attends several of the entertaining

events which take place on the campus of the University each year, such as the annual rodeo, the pet shows, or—last year—the ice show. The high points of the school year are the homecoming festivities in the fall, the Hallowe'en, Christmas, and Valentine school parties, the formal dance around Christmas time, and the banquet, the school picnic, and the fashion show in the spring.

### HEARING AIDS

Bought-Sold-Exchanged

Repairs for All Type Aids

Also Batteries and Supplies

HEARING AID EXCHANGE

SAN FRANCISCO



left to right:  
Emil S. Ladner  
J. O. Hamersly  
Virgie Dries  
Julius Salzer  
Harry Baynes

## Top-Flight Agents Keep The Silent Worker Going

THE SILENT WORKER's success and in fact its very beginning is due almost entirely to the great work of some expert salesmen among its large number of subscription agents. Some of these agents are well known figures among the deaf while others have been content to confine their energies to their local spheres. The work of the leaders among these agents has been so noteworthy they deserve the acclaim of all who appreciate the resurrected magazine.

At the top of the list is Miss Virginia Marie Dries, Chicago agent-correspondent, who at this writing leads the field in gathering in subscriptions for THE SILENT WORKER. Born in Chicago, Miss Dries became deaf at the age of seven and received her education in exclusive schools for the deaf and at a business college. She spent a year at the Chicago Art Institute. Miss Dries tried her hand at teaching at one time, in the Ephpheta School for the Deaf in Chicago, and then worked in the credit office of Mendel Brothers, one of the biggest department stores in the Loop. She now does dressmaking.

Miss Dries has been one of the leading lights among the Chicago deaf for a number of years. She has held offices in numerous organizations, such as the Chicago Club for the Deaf, and the Women's Auxiliary of the NFSD.

Second to Miss Dries in the business

of garnering subscriptions is Harry L. Baynes, of Talladega, Alabama. The results he has produced are even the more remarkable because the scene of his labors is in one of the smallest cities in which the magazine has an agent.

Baynes is a member of the faculty at the Alabama School for the Deaf and director of physical education. He is one of the few, if not the only deaf in the United States who was born in a town of his own name—Baynesville, Maryland. Like Miss Dries, he became deaf at the age of seven, and attended the Maryland School for the Deaf. He is a graduate of Gallaudet College, with the class of 1923.

At Gallaudet Baynes won letters in basketball and football, and excelled in the classroom. Upon his graduation from college, the Louisiana school claimed his services as teacher and director of athletics, and he moved on to the Alabama school in 1929. Baynes married the former Edna Henson, a graduate of the Missouri school, and they have two children, the elder of whom, Connie, is now a sophomore at the University of Alabama. His young son, Ronald Lawrence, with papa's expert coaching, is headed for future All-American football stardom.

Crowding on the heels of Harry Baynes in numbers of subscriptions taken in for THE SILENT WORKER is

Emil Stephen Ladner, of Berkeley, California. Ladner is a native son of the Golden State, having been born in San Jose. He became deaf from scarlet fever at the age of five, attended St. Joseph's School for the Deaf in Oakland, and the California School at Berkeley, and graduated from Gallaudet College in 1935. Soon after his graduation he began his teaching career in the California School and married Mary Blackinton of Michigan, one of his college mates. They have been blessed with four offspring, twin boys and two daughters.

The great number of subscribers in Akron, Ohio, is due to the fine work of J. O. Hamersly. Mr. Hamersly was born in Iowa and educated at the Iowa School for the Deaf. He taught the printing trade in the Mississippi School for two years and then went into farming for a while. He married Ada B. Faulkner, of Mississippi, who met a tragic death in 1935 when struck by an automobile.

A war-time advertisement in the old *Silent Worker* induced him to move to Akron and work for Goodyear in 1919, and he has been on the job ever since, developing a printing business as a sideline. Like most of our outstanding agents, Mr. Hamersly has held leading roles in numerous activities, notable among them being supervision of the great G. L. D. Bowling tournament in 1942, and conducting the Akron campaign for the NAD Victory Fund, which resulted in the purchase of three clubmobiles for the Red Cross.

Anyone who lives in Milwaukee, or who has even visited that city within the past year probably has been nailed for a subscription by Julius M. Salzer,



our live-wire agent there. Mr. Salzer was the eighth of nine children, and was born deaf. He attended the Oral School for the Deaf in Cincinnati, and the Ohio State School for the Deaf, winding up at the Ohio Mechanics Institute, where he studied drafting and engineering. Salzer is a staunch booster for the combined system of education.

In addition to his efforts for THE SILENT WORKER, Mr. Salzer is a booster for the NAD from 'way back. He has long been a life member, and when the Association inaugurated its campaign for a home office, he went to bat with all he had for the good of the cause, soliciting members, life members, renewals, and contributions, to the tune of \$530.00 at this writing.

Lack of space forbids detailed mention of a number of other agents whose work deserves some expression of appreciation. High among the leaders is David Mudgett, of Illinois, a teacher in the Illinois School. Muddy was originally chosen to be business manager of this magazine, but when he found himself overwhelmed by the immense task, he kept his hand in the organization by corralling Illinois subscribers.

Another crack Illinois agent is John Otto, of Springfield, who was one of Mudgett's original assistant salesmen. In New Jersey, home of the original *Silent Worker*, Delbert E. Willis, with the help of his wife, has taken in a flood of subscriptions, and in upper New York our live-wire is Mahlon E. Hoag.

Mrs. Richard Jones is another high-ranking agent, covering the Des Moines, Iowa, territory. Mrs. Robert Brown, wife of the printing instructor in the Colorado School, has seen to it that most of the deaf around Colorado Springs and Denver read THE SILENT WORKER. In Salem, Oregon, Mrs. Georgia Ulmer is another who stands high on our list of agents.

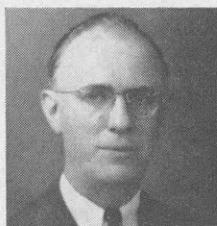
One of our agents, Miss Rhoda Clark, has sold the magazine on both sides of the continent. She began her work while living in Hartford, Connecticut, then moved to Los Angeles and continued her search for subscribers. In the Los Angeles territory we have another high ranking agent in Miss Lillian Hahn. She is well known to readers of the magazine through the excellent movie reviews she writes. Another of our crack writers who doubles as a crack salesman is Ray Grayson, of Cincinnati. His news items from Ohio have appeared frequently, as have his subscription entries.

These represent the most successful of our subscription agents, but the work of many others is equally appreciated. Without the help we have received from each, THE SILENT WORKER would not be in your hands today.

## ken's korner

by MARCUS L. KENNER

In my mail, the other day, came a pathetic plea from a young Mid-West gal, deaf, lonely, and longing for "a nice fellow, sweet and gay, who never drinks and tells the truth." (*Is there such a one actually in existence, I wonder?*) Which brings to mind our two great national conventions, sponsored by the NAD and the NFSD, where, almost unfailingly, it seems, boy meets girl and (with an able assist by Dan Cupid) lo! — wedding bells are rung! I recollect one NAD convention at Atlanta, Ga., where, between sessions, the president, Rev. Dr. James H. Cloud, was hastily pressed into service to officiate at an impromptu ceremony then and there. Methinks Jimmy Meagher "spotted" his Freda at one of these conventions. Won't other happily-hitched couples kindly step forward?



MARCUS L. KENNER

sibly do, medically, I invited him to unfold his case.

It's short and simple: He has a one-month-old baby. Wifey is a sound sleeper, with result that the piercing mid-night blasts of the poor kid, figuratively and actually, fall on deaf ears. She is alone, as the father is employed nights, thus rendering matters worse confounded. I am sure it would prove of general interest to get acquainted with those latest electronic contraptions which serve to wake mother or father, or both, whenever that Kid "alarm" starts going. Could any of our readers, especially young parents, offer any suggestions? (*Send suggestions to M.L.K., 150 W. 22nd St., New York 11.*)

\* \* \*

Orkids and huzzahs to Mrs. Louise Hume of Akron, Ohio, for her single-handed feat in persuading 466 persons to become members of the NAD, besides securing 118 renewals and 20 life members.

Speaking of making a living, Dr. Harris Taylor tells of a dear, sweet, little girl at the Texas School for the Deaf, who seemed to qualify. She came to his class, one day, and handed him 50c which she instructed him to watch carefully. She clearly implied that she did not trust the Superintendent's Office with so much ready cash. Well, she drew \$3.60 of this out; and upon being transferred, demanded the remainder!

\* \* \*

S.O.S.! A certain M.D. phoned. Would I, please, assist a deaf patient of his? Several days later, the "patient" dropped in. Wondering just what this "Korner" could pos-

I had occasion to do some shopping at a department store recently. A young Miss, standing nearby, seemed to sense the fact that I was having some difficulty in lip-reading and so, I must be deaf. (Right!) Quickly she ambled closer to my side and sweetly finger-spelled, "Can I help you?" Curious, I inquired just who taught her the alphabet and, well—would you believe it?—twas none other than "my grandfather, Dr. Thomas F. Fox," he of the "Old Guard," a former president of the NAD. It is certainly pleasant to meet folks such as these. On steamer, train and plane, wherever a deaf person is spotted, a stranger generally sidles up with the information that one of his friends or relatives, maybe a second cousin of a cousin, is deaf and forthwith engages in alphabetical conversation—should lip-reading prove inadequate. What is this alphabet but "writing in the air"? And what an indescribable comfort in bridging a gap! Like happiness, let's spread it far and wide.

MARCUS L. KENNER, Agent  
NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE INS. CO.  
150 West 22nd St., New York City  
No extra charge account deafness.  
Write for rates. No obligation.

WHEN IN KANSAS CITY  
DROP IN AT THE  
**Heart of America Club**  
**For The Deaf**  
1315½ WALNUT STREET  
Kansas City 6, Mo.  
Open Thursday nights, Saturdays  
and Sundays

# Churches

## IN THE DEAF WORLD

J. H. MCFARLANE, *Editor*

### *St. Ann's Celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary*

by MISS E. J. C. ALLERUP

St. Ann's Episcopal Church for the Deaf recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of its location at 511 West 148th Street, New York City. The church was founded a little more than 96 years ago by Rev. Thomas Gallaudet, who also established the Gallaudet Home for the Aged and Infirm Deaf at Wappingers Falls, N. Y.

Dr. Edwin W. Nies, vestryman, gave an address on the 50 year history of the church at its present location. He was assisted in the conduct of the service by Mr. Edmund Hicks, layreader, and the choir consisting of Mesdames Eleanor Sherman Font, Elsie Funk and Ethel Dickman, and Miss Muriel Dvorak. Mr. Charles B. Terry served as the acolyte.

St. Ann's has been without a regular pastor since the resignation in 1944 of Rev. Gilbert Braddock, who accepted a teaching position at the Virginia school. Rev. J. Stanley Light takes time out from his parish duties throughout New England to conduct monthly communion services.

St. Ann's Church sold its present edifice at 511 West 148th St., N. Y., on Dec. 30th to a colored Baptist group. The deaf congregation have until February to move elsewhere. The 148th Street location has long been regarded as undesirable.

#### **Gleanings from the Fields**

- From Prof. Harley D. Drake of Washington, D. C., we have an interesting glimpse of the history of the oldest mission for the deaf in the Capital City. It was established, so he informs us, in 1885 as one of a number of missions that followed the organization of Calvary Baptist Church of that city in 1862. A notable fact in this connection is that it was the Hon. Amos Kendall, whose benefactions assisted so largely in the founding of Columbia Institution for the Deaf, who contributed most toward the erection of the original Calvary Church.

The mission originally served the deaf by providing interpreters for the minister's sermons, Dr. E. M. Gallaudet, Prof. J. E. Gordon, Miss Mary T. G. Gordon

and Mr. Charles Grow acting in that capacity for some years, after which the organization disbanded for want of interpreters.

The mission was reorganized in 1909, Prof. Drake continues, under the leadership of Prof. A. D. Bryant, who was ordained as a Baptist minister in 1911 and continued his service there until his death in 1939.

Prof. Drake, who had acted as Dr. Bryant's assistant, was thereupon asked by the minister of Calvary Church to take full charge of the mission work, which he has ably carried on till the present time.

Services are held at the mission Sunday evening, except during July and August, a commodious Sunday school room being provided for the purpose.

• The Baptist Mission to the Deaf of Los Angeles publishes a monthly paper named *The Baptist Eye-Witness*. In this publication there are reports of church activities, schedules of services, and announcements that indicate a live body of church members.

#### **Pastor H. A. Beatrup**

From Rev. F. G. Gyle of St. Louis we have this sketch of the career of a pioneer missionary to the deaf, the late Pastor H. A. Beatrup, who passed away at his home in Chattanooga, Tenn., on October 29.

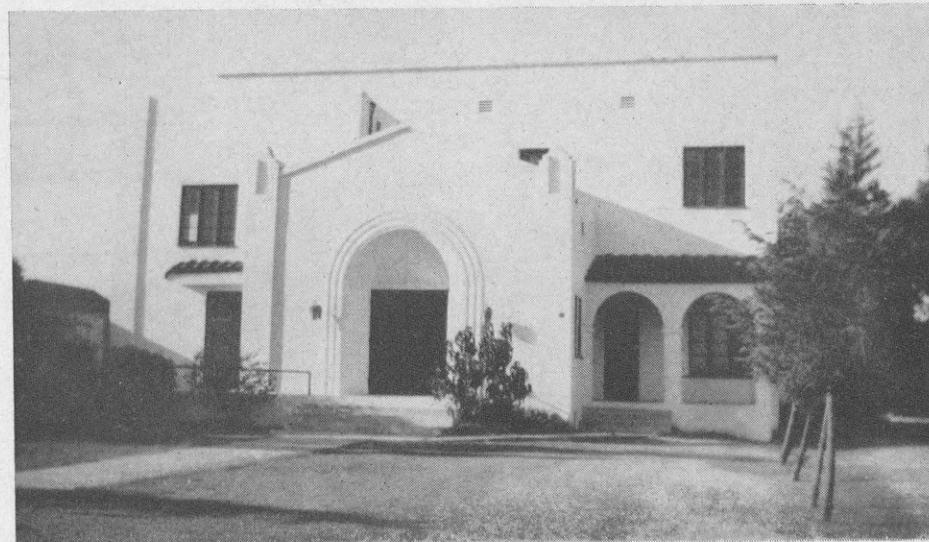
Pastor Beatrup was born in California, Mo., in 1872. Educated at Concor-

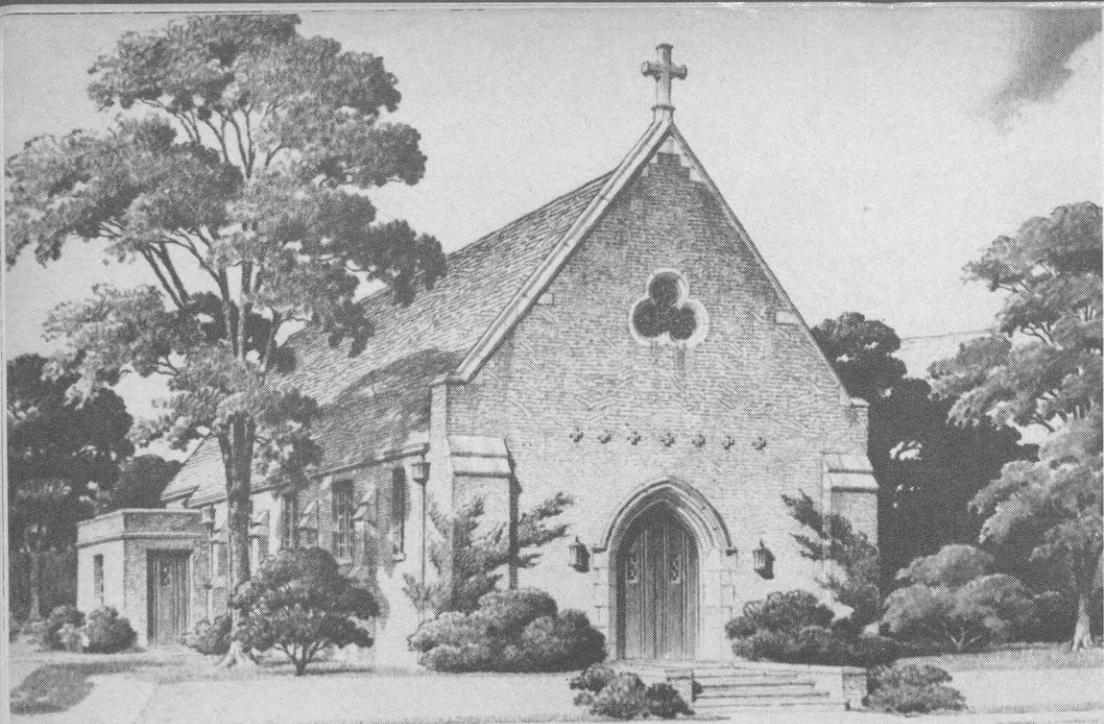
Rev. Leon E. Hilton, right, is pastor of Los Angeles' Baptist Mission to the Deaf, below, one of California's more active churches.

dia College, Ft. Wayne, Ind., and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, he was ordained to the holy ministry and commissioned as missionary to the deaf in Louisville, Ky., in 1896, one of the first two Lutheran workers in the newly organized mission field. He went to Danville, Ky., where he lived at the school for several weeks and observed the methods used in the classroom while he learned the sign language.

After a few years in the Deaf Mission, he was called to succeed Daniel W. Ulig as Director of the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf in Detroit. There he changed the language of the school from German to English and introduced finger-spelling into the classroom.

He served as pastor in several congregations during his active ministry, retiring at the age of 68, in Elma, Iowa. During his retirement he supplied many vacant pulpits and preached in various places from eastern Tennessee to southern California. He organized and served temporarily in a Negro Mission in Chattanooga, Tenn., until 1947. In the fall of that year he assisted materially in the work among the deaf of Chattanooga, which was reopened by the





Lutheran Church for the Deaf, New York City. Rev. F. F. Possehl, pastor.

vacancy pastor at his suggestion. He preached his last sermon on August 15, 1948, in Ascension Lutheran Church, Chattanooga, just 52 years after his ordination.

The following week he was operated on for cancer. He declined rapidly but remained cheerful and uncomplaining, with firm trust in his Saviour and Lord.

In July, he left unfinished his memoirs and a manual on the sign language. He is survived by his second wife and several children and grandchildren by his first marriage. His body was laid to rest in the churchyard at Elma, Iowa.

### Deaf Churchman Honored

• Lafayette A. Trousdale, deaf pressman of Monroe, La., who lately retired after 34 years at his trade, was presented a letter of commendation and a framed testimonial by the Men's Bible Class of the First Methodist Church of his town on Sunday, December 5, in

recognition of his having served the class as its secretary or otherwise for a period of 25 years. The framed certificate expressed the appreciation of the class as follows:

"The Men's Bible Class of the First Methodist Church, Monroe, La., presents this testimonial of appreciation to Lafayette A. Trousdale in recognition of the fact that he has served the Sunday school, and the Men's Bible Class faithfully, efficiently and unselfishly for more than 25 years in spite of a physical handicap. With the hope, the prayer and belief that a more fitting award awaits him in 'That House Not Made with Hands, Eternal in the Heavens.'"

Mr. Trousdale was educated at the Louisiana School for the Deaf, and on leaving school worked for some years in New Orleans. He is a member of the Monroe Chamber of Commerce.

• A student evangelist, Bob Johnson of Washington state, has confirmed the report that he held services for the deaf in Akron, Ohio, last fall before he returned to Gallaudet College. He informs us that he was also in Tulsa, Okla., and Portland, Oregon, for the same purpose.

While at college, Mr. Johnson makes missionary trips every other week to conduct services for the deaf in Manhattan, Staten Island, and Elizabeth, N. J., under the auspices of the Christian Deaf Fellowship, an interdenominational organization.

### John Henry Kent

Up in the northwest corner of New York City, far from the hustle and bustle of Gotham, a simply furnished but comfortable little room stands devoid of human habitation, and its owner will not return. John Henry Kent has embarked upon that longest journey of all.

Minister, scholar, author, poet, journalist, humorist, lecturer, thespian,

globe-trotter—Mr. Kent was all these, and more. He was intensely human, and his brilliantly versatile intellect acknowledged few equals. His friends were legion, and their undeviating loyalty is mute tribute to the innate goodness of the man.

Church leadership alone was not his only aim—he had that forward-looking vision that to gain a large and interesting congregation one must also have ways and means of holding people. To this end his efforts went toward making use of his own literary and dramatic knowledge, with which he was unusually gifted.

Church and pleasure alone did not have precedence over the economic welfare of the members of his congregation. Many a time he went out of his way to find jobs for members, to visit the sick and needy, as well as to attend court sessions on a number of occasions when some member was in need of assistance.

Then again, he was regular with his attendance at the Gallaudet Home for the Aged at Wappingers Falls, New York.

During the first World War, he felt that his patriotism was too sincere for him to carry a German-sounding name, so on December 5, 1918, he appealed to the New York Supreme Court to have his name changed to John Henry Kent.

Mr. Kent left the ministry of St. Ann's Church in 1929, and led a very quiet and obscure life. He was content with the peace and quiet of a lovable home life and the dear friends who soon became part of his own family. Friends were true and loyal. Friends were God-sent.

Throughout his declining years, Mr. Kent, despite his love for his church, kept alert as to world conditions. His brilliance of mind and ever-ready wit were always shared with those friends close to him.

John Henry Kent passed on to the Great Beyond on August 17, 1948, at the age of 69 years. Those who were true to him and loved him will never forget his kind and ever inspiring spirit.

—His Friends.

Church news and pictures should be sent to Mr. J. H. McFarlane, Church Editor, 802 Maple Drive, Talladega, Alabama.

### Greater Cincinnati Silent Club, Incorporated

103 W. CENTRAL PARKWAY

Cincinnati 2, Ohio

Out of Town Visitors Always Welcome



LAFAYETTE A. TROUSDALE

# National Association of the Deaf

BYRON B. BURNES, President

## N.A.D. Volcano Due for Another Eruption

by FRANK HAYER, Publicity

This particular volcano is not one of those nature-made kind, that spew thick clouds of smoke and hot lava and cause untold havoc in loss of property and lives. So, readers, be not alarmed.

The National Association of the Deaf is like a large, growing mound, and, in the writer's mind, resembles a volcano. This ever-growing mound must of necessity reach its limits some time, and erupt to spread the contents of its restless inside workings.

On the date of July 3, 1949, the writer foresees the volcano's greatest eruption to date. The earth will shake and the resulting tremor's vibrations will reach the four corners of the nation. The eruption will crack wide open the closed door to the Twenty-first Triennial Convention of the NAD, which is to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, from July 3 to 9.

The Cleveland Association of the Deaf, which is to be host to this convention, has all plans well lined up. Members of the association aim to give the deaf public one of the best programs, and a souvenir book which, it is hoped, will be worth all the trouble and expense of having it printed. Besides the advertisements in the books, there will be pages devoted to essential information of the program, business sessions, and some historical items regarding the NAD's growth and present standing as a national organization for the deaf.

In a future issue of *THE SILENT WORKER*, a full disclosure will be made of the tentative program. So, for the present, digest this, kind readers, and then favor us with your cooperation in putting this gathering of NAD members over the top.

As a final gesture at the close of the convention, the award of benefit prizes will be announced on Friday evening, July 8, in one of the large halls in Cleveland's Hotel Carter. The two main prizes at this affair will be a 1949 Deluxe 4-door Plymouth automobile and a top quality radio-television set.

No admission charge will be made for this event, which will be followed by professional floor show entertainment of "home-talent" acts by any who wish to exhibit their particular skills on the stage. Any deaf readers who wish to demonstrate their acting ability on the

evening should contact Mr. Dick Petkovitch, entertainment chairman, 3195 W. 44th St., Cleveland 9, Ohio, in order that arrangements may be made. Give particulars as to kind of act, title, and length of time necessary to complete your act. Short acts are preferred.

An appeal is being made to all the deaf and clubs for their cooperation in the sale of benefit tickets. Contact Herman S. Cahen, 2616 University Rd., University Heights 18, Ohio, for full particulars, and ask for as many books as you can sell. Each person who sells 100 or more books will earn a 10% commission for his cooperation. The salesman of the winning ticket for the grand prize will be awarded \$100 in cash.

Start now to plan for that trip to Cleveland. In a later number of *THE SILENT WORKER*, some of the brighter spots in Cleveland will be given.

## Liability Insurance

There is a trend in several states toward adoption of a law regarding automobile drivers which makes it practically essential that all drivers have public liability automobile insurance. This law is frequently but erroneously called a "compulsory insurance" law. It does not state that drivers must have insurance. It merely makes it mandatory that drivers be financially able to pay for any accident, for which they are responsible, which results in injury or death or damage to property. It is correctly termed a "financial responsibility" law.

Drivers who figure in an accident must deposit with the department of motor vehicles enough money to pay the damage in case claims are entered and judgment rendered which holds them responsible. If they are found not responsible for the damage, the money will be returned to them. Since a great many drivers do not have at all times sufficient cash to cover damages for accidents that may occur, the safest thing for them to do is acquire liability insurance.

Deaf drivers have expressed some fear that this law might make it difficult for them to retain their driving rights, but such copies of the law as we have seen do not contain anything that could be considered discriminatory. It does work to the disadvantage of the deaf to some extent in that the deaf find it difficult in places to obtain insurance. As a rule, they apply to a firm in Chi-

ROBERT M. GRUNMUN, Secretary

cago, which appears to be the only insurance concern accepting deaf drivers on the same basis as other drivers. Numerous deaf drivers have acquired liability insurance from other firms, but most of the large companies generally still refuse to issue insurance to the deaf, in spite of the fact that deaf drivers boast one of the best safety records of all drivers.

In states where the financial responsibility law is in effect, there is an "assigned risk" plan, by which drivers who, because of some physical disability or other reason, are not acceptable to the insurance companies, apply to the state insurance commissioner and if that official considers these drivers capable, he assigns some firm to issue insurance to them. Since deaf drivers are not usually acceptable, some of them obtain insurance through this means. We have not heard of one being turned down by the insurance commissioner, but not a very great many have applied.

The assigned risk plan is not very popular among the deaf. They object, with good reason, to being classed as handicapped in so far as driving automobiles is concerned. Moreover, they are frequently required to pay a higher rate by the firms to which their application is assigned, another unjust discrimination when the good record compiled by deaf drivers is considered.

There can be no objection to the financial responsibility law in itself, where it is as explained above. The thing for deaf drivers to do is to protect the record they have made, and even to improve upon it, and to continue their efforts to convince the insurance companies that they are worthy risks.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND OF JULY 2, 1946 OF *THE SILENT WORKER*, published monthly at Berkeley, California, as required by the act of August 24, 1912.

Publisher, the National Association of the Deaf, Berkeley, California; Editor, B. R. White, Oakland, California; Business Manager, Harry M. Jacobs, Berkeley, California.

The owner is the National Association of the Deaf, Berkeley, California.

Bondholders, mortgagees, and security holders, none.

(Signed) HARRY M. JACOBS.  
Business Manager.  
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of January, 1949.

CHARLES GRASSI,  
Notary Public in and for the County  
of Alameda, State of California,  
My commission expires January 11,  
1952.  
1-14-49

# *From the sublime*

## TO THE RIDICULOUS . . .

FELIX KOWALEWSKI, *Editor*

### A LITTLE DEAF BOY'S PRAYER

*He was such a little tot,  
The youngest in the school year;  
And as he knelt beside his cot,  
I drew near that I might hear  
What his baby lips were saying,  
For I saw that he was praying.  
Only three words, the names of his  
toys  
Had he been taught to say,  
But he had watched the other boys  
As they knelt each night to pray;  
And his soul in darkness bound  
Was seeking the light the others had  
found.  
Surely on breath of angels borne,  
The prayer he uttered ascended  
above,  
And Christ, who pitied the lamb  
newly shorn  
Looked down on the child with  
wondrous love.  
These words I heard, all that he knew,  
"A fish, a top, a shoe."*

(Author unknown—  
information appreciated.)

### PARDON ME, MISTER, BUT COULD YOU TELL ME . . .

*In a town where I am a stranger  
I can never ferret out  
A healthy, normal native  
When I ask my way about.  
I will find the hard of hearing,  
Or the gesture-making mute,  
Or a person with the stutters  
In a stage that's most acute.  
I will come across an ancient,  
Or the diaper-wearing young,  
Or, perhaps, another stranger,  
Or a man of foreign tongue.  
In a town where I'm a stranger  
Everyone whom I implore on  
For directions has an ailment  
Or the I.Q. of a moron!*

(Addison H. Hallock—Liberty)

(Submitted by W. I. Wells)

*The Pardon Me, Mister, poem about meeting a deaf mute reminds me of a game the old Fanwood boys used to play. Going back to school Sunday evenings (in their cadet blue uniforms), they used to wait up under the clock at the Times Square subway station. To strangers, especially trustful old ladies, our uniforms usually meant subway guards and information, please. To whatever we were asked, we just nodded understandingly, pointed straight*

ahead, then right, then down, up, and left. Even with a captain's chevrons, I was asked once too often, and after the usual ceremony of compass-boxing, a particularly belligerent old lady was sent on her way. I settled back into a blissful wait for my Peggy. Before I knew what had happened, I found myself rubbing my aching head and straightening my battered cap, gazing ruefully after the retreating figure of the same belligerent lady, marching through a doorway a few yards away, grasping an ominously bent umbrella. My miserable lip-reading had misfired again—mistaking "rest room" for "West Broome."

### ST. PATRICK

*St. Patrick was a gentleman  
Who, through strategy and stealth,  
Drove all the snakes from Ireland.  
Here's a bumper to his health!  
But not too many bumpers,  
Lest we lose ourselves and then  
Forget the good St. Patrick  
And see the snakes again!*

(Author unknown)

### "HERE, WAITRESS . . ."

Are you one of the unfortunates who, priding themselves on their ability to speak clearly, end up with their tongues in hempen knots? If so, friend, listen to my tale of woe . . .

At a drive-in counter in that welter of drive-ins, Los Angeles, I once ordered two coffees to go, in my own rich baritone. Came the waitress, came the check . . . with an amazing total of 73 cents. Falling off my swivel seat, I came up ready to do battle, but was promptly squelched by the girl. Said she, I had ordered two hot fudge sundaes, as plain as day.

Then, there was the sandwich business. Grilled cheese for me, and tongue for my wife, I told that gorgeous blonde. After the usual unusually long wait for service, we got our snacks—Chef's Special green

Help us be ridiculous  
Make us feel sublime—  
Shoot some lines to Kow  
2649 Benvenue Avenue  
Berkeley 5, California



salad for me, and tuna fish for the little woman (who detests tuna).

In Dick Wick Hall's "Where She Danced" curio shop-bus stop-gas station-eatery, in Salome, Ariz., we stopped for some light refreshment while on the road. Tired and disinterested, the wife asked me to order a glass of milk and some toast. I did, and some 20 minutes later along came a steaming dish of milk-toast.

Stubborn to the end, I remain one of the brethren who will not resort to a pad and pencil as long as my vocal cords will produce audible sounds. The wife is slightly cynical, but she proffers a ray of hope by remarking that, after the two children grow old enough to correct Daddy's pronunciation, he may end up an after-dinner speaker for the Rotarians!

—HERB SCHREIBER.

### RANDY CHILD

*Oh, the joys of baby care!  
Living on a sleepless fare—  
And the diapers and the pins,  
Yip, I'd die if we had twins!  
Deaf folks we, so every night  
Finds us clicking on the light  
Every time an hour goes by—  
Does our little princess cry?  
When she's got a bad colic . . .  
Then our baby's despotic  
Keeps us working overtime  
Won't the union give a dime?  
Sweetest thing that ever cried  
Yes, O God, I'm satisfied—  
But I always have to weep  
Every time I think of sleep!  
When into her bed we tuck her  
Hopelessly we watch her pucker  
Up her little face and cry . . .  
Lord! If onnly we knew why.  
Diapers dry and we just fed her  
And the room ain't one bit colder—  
Things seem o.k., pins all tight—  
Still our baby bawls all night!  
Oh, the joys of parenthood!  
Highest form of human good!  
Three hours sleep, and twenty-one  
To our lovely baby gone!*

—M. D. GARRETSON.

# *Swinging 'round the nation*

Our roving news editor has done it again. Henceforth, all news and pictures should be addressed to Loel Schreiber, 421 N. Valencia Ave., Alhambra, Calif. Readers living in cities where we have no agent are asked to contribute news and pictures. Deadline is the first of the month.

## ARKANSAS . . .

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Charlotte Collums, we are able to present first-time Arkansas news this month. Let's hope for more from time to time.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown, of Los Angeles, Calif., visited Mrs. Brown's mother, Mrs. W. T. Walls, and her sister, Mrs. J. Drake.

Sherman Westfall is back on his own two feet, after having one of them encased in a cast for a month. He broke his leg on the basketball court, and from now on he'll have to do his playing from the sidelines.

Earl Bell has moved to Jackson, Miss. He is employed at the school for the deaf there.

Luther Shibley has a new car—at least, it's "new" to him—a 1941 Chevrolet. His daughter is attending school in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and he and Mrs. Shibley make frequent trips to visit her.

Come to Cleveland July 3-9

## WASHINGTON, D. C. . .

Through the courtesy of Edward P. Bonvillain, we are able to report that 1949 officers of the District of Columbia club will be as follows: Wallace D. Edington, reelected pres.; Robert Hopkins, vice-pres.; Alva Cuppy, secy.; John M. Goodin, treas.; Elmer S. Havens, financial secy.; Reuben I. Altizer, athletic director; Edward P. Bonvillain, Duncan Smoak, and Victor H. Lomonosov, trustees. Elmer S. Havens was elected house manager, to be assisted by Hillard Summers, Robert Hopkins, I. Hoberman and R. Lindsey. The board of governors is to include Duncan Smoak, E. Isaacson, Hillard Summers, Mrs. May Havens, and Victor Lomonosov.

Sandy Ewan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Ewan, is recuperating nicely after an emergency operation for acute appendicitis.

The John M. Goodins have purchased a lovely home in Silver Springs, Md.

LeRoy Gerhard of Philadelphia had difficulty convincing his two children that Santa Claus (Michael Jannace), is really a good guy. The picture was taken at the parish hall of All Souls' Church, Philadelphia, during a Christmas party, Dec. 26.—Photo by Frank Mescol.

## NEW YORK . . .

Julius L. Fishbein is now crutch-borne. After embracing a taxi-cab somewhat too cordially at West End Ave. and 71st, he was rushed to Roosevelt Hospital for treatment of a fractured right knee.

Albert Downes is sporting a cheerful grin these days. His Canadian bride, the former Irvine Longmore, was finally able to get across the border to join him. The wedding took place in Canada, but the bride was detained because of legal complexities.

Hearts and flowers: Anna Fiorillo has become the fiancee of William Fitzpatrick, Jr., of Freeport, L. I., while the engagement of Jean Muir Morrison to George Brower Bedford, of Hackensack, N. J., has also been announced, wedding to take place later.

Sarah Sandler returned to her Montreal, Quebec, home with pleasant memories, we'll bet. She spent two weeks in the big city, one of them as the guest of the Spencer Hoags.

The passing of John J. Kirwan was mourned by faculty, staff, and alumni of P. S. 47, Manhattan. He was formerly the custodian engineer of the school, and is remembered for his integrity, untiring effort, and thoughtfulness.

Birthday parties featured N. Y. social life recently. One, for Jean Muir Morrison, was hosted by her fiance, George Bedford. Those present included Mary Betty Edmonds, Arthur Krauskopf, Pat and Bill Rodgers, Dorothy Dresser, Evelyn and Jim Russell, and a few others. Friends visited our correspon-

dent, Edith C. J. Allerup, on the occasion of her birthday, while less than two weeks previously Miss Allerup herself had given a surprise party for Muriel Dvorak, capable head of the Brooklyn Protestant Guild of the Deaf's "Chatter".

Friends of Dr. Edwin W. Nies of New York, known and admired throughout the country, will be concerned to hear of his present serious illness. He first contracted the "flu," and this condition is now complicated by "strep throat." His wife is reported to have lost a great deal of weight from the strain of her steadfast nursing.

Come to Cleveland July 3-9

## IOWA . . .

The holiday season as one of sadness for many Iowa deaf; in Des Moines three homes were touched by death. Marie Callison's father died December 27. Miss Lizzie Murray died January 1, her birthday. Edward Hans' mother died January 14.

Several of the men around Des Moines have taken an interest in bowling this year. Five who work at Lake Shore Tire and Rubber Company make up the Silents of the Lake Shore league. Although there are no stars among them, they hold their own pretty well. Another enthusiastic bowler is Marvin Neuschwanger, who is on the Anderson-Erickson Dairy team. In a recent roll off, Marvin's team placed second.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Clayton decided that it was high time to celebrate the New Year elsewhere than at home, so

(Continued on page 21)





Christmas and New Years' were big events at the Greater Cincinnati Silent Club, in the top picture, members enjoy a stage program on New Year's Eve. Below, children await the beginning of a Christmas movie in the club on the afternoon of December 18.—Photos by Grayson

## Greater Cincinnati Club Fetes New Year

by RAY T. GRAYSON

This was one occasion when the event measured up to advance notices and anticipation. The New Year's Party at the Greater Cincinnati Silent club turned out to be even better than advertised and everyone was completely satisfied. The floor show even measured up to advance announcements—thanks to the beauty and charm of the four dancing girls, Ruth Taylor, Beatrice Jaworek, Florence Bischoff and Harriet Duning, and the talented acting of Lucy Huddleston. Even Cincinnati's most confirmed bachelor, Gus Straus, merits his share of praise, for he managed to escape the wiles of the temptresses on the last day of the Leap Year.

Besides the amateur talent, two professionals were also engaged for the evening—a magician, who had proven so popular on his first appearance the previous year that he was re-engaged. He presented an entirely new show and had every one guessing at his tricks. The other act was a combination of a

little of everything—a clown, magician, marionette, tumbler, and escape artist—all in one person.

The real highlight of the evening, was the can-can dance done by the aforementioned dancing girls, who later appeared in another skit which ended up with them all wishing the audience a Happy New Year. The opening skit, by the same girls, and assisted by Lucy Huddleston, was a pathetic sketch of the girls as they would be 20, 30 or maybe 40 years from now. It made a big hit—especially the gag ending.

Advance notices, such as the advertisement in the December issue of THE SILENT WORKER, and the reputation for excellent New Year's parties gained in past years, attracted a large out-of-town attendance to this party, the total attendance for the night being about 175. As might be expected, the party did not break up until the wee hours of the morning. Many of the out-of-town visitors remained over until Sunday.

## E. E. Vinson Bequeaths Sight-Saving Aid To Oregon School

by MRS. DORA CRAVEN

The will of Emery Vinson, who died of cancer on September 21, 1948, has been revealed as providing the sum of \$250 to be used to furnish eye glasses to needy pupils at the Oregon School in Salem. Mrs. Vinson has added the sum of \$30, making a total of \$280 for this project.

Mrs. Vinson has forwarded the money to Superintendent Clatterbuck of the Salem School, requesting that it not be drawn upon until the Oregon Association of the Deaf has convened in 1950. It is hoped that the Oregon Association will vote to perpetuate the fund, perhaps under the name of the Emery Vinson Memorial Fund.

The late Mr. Vinson was an alumnus of the Oregon School, and attended Gallaudet College. He was a printer by trade, and later became a farmer. He had a fine record of activities among the deaf of his state.

## California Legislative Act Hits Impostors

A bill which would prohibit solicitation of funds by persons posing as deaf has been introduced in the California Legislature by State Senator Howard Williams, at the request of the California Association of the Deaf. W. J. Hoffman of Lindsay, second vice-president of the CAD, prevailed upon Senator Williams to present the measure.

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# *Swinging...*

(Continued from page 19)

they traveled to Minneapolis to join friends for the holiday.

Come to Cleveland July 3-9

## **CALIFORNIA . . .**

On February 5, the Berkeley-Oakland Division No. 79, NFSI, staged one of the largest whist socials of recent years. There were twenty-four tables of whist players striving for the thirty-five dollars in prizes. Mrs. Opal Senkbeil emerged the winner for the first prize, followed by Mrs. Lester G. Rosson, Frank Emerick, Antone Peixotto, Lillian George, Mrs. Agnes Ormes, and A. L. Boyer.

Another fund-raising affair that proved both financially and entertainingly successful was the dog show put on by Mr. Bill Willet, a retired fireman and the brother-in-law of Arthur Jatta. Mr. Willet put his trained dog Raleigh through several stunts to the delight of a large and appreciative audience at the East Bay Club.

Mrs. Bessie Howson and Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Davidson are taking an extended trip through Mexico in the former's car. They expect to be gone a month or more. We are looking forward to their return with souvenirs and anecdotes of the trip.

Alexis Borsoff took a trip to Colorado during the holidays and said he enjoyed the snow there.

William E. Hoy, noted old-time baseball star from Cincinnati, and Mrs. Hoy have been spending the mid-winter months in California, at the home of their daughter in Mill Valley. Unfortunately, the Hoyes have not been able to get around so much as they had hoped, since Mrs. Hoy suffered a severe illness after arriving here. They plan to return to their Ohio home in March.

Mrs. T. Y. Northern of Denver, Colorado, has been visiting in California since the holidays, first with her daughter and son at Los Angeles, and later with numerous friends in the Bay Area. She departed for Denver on Feb. 7th.

Recent travelers from Los Angeles to points here and there include the Art Krugers, who motored to Death Valley; Mr. and Mrs. George Young, who drove to Palm Springs and Mexicali for their yearly "honeymoon", and Ernie Bardfeld, who flew to Mexico City. Ernie was met by the four delegates who were here for the Frat convention in 1947.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Davis, formerly of Chicago and more recently of San Jose, have made Altadena their permanent home, through the recent purchase of a house of their own. Caroline Goode hosted a welcome party for the couple.

The Roy Sigmans of Kansas City,

Mo., were the guests of the Kyle Workmans for two weeks. Roy is the brother of Lucy Sigman and Mae Workman. Other visitors to the coast city were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Majka of Chicago.

Mrs. Lester Hagemeyer of Chicago has been sojourning with her married daughter and two grandchildren in Inglewood for several weeks. The Bob Millers of Poughkeepsie also stopped in Los Angeles while honeymooning.

Mrs. May F. Doane was called to Marysville, as her only sister, Lillian, was very ill with liver trouble. Although Mrs. Doane nursed her sister for two weeks, the illness proved fatal.

Mrs. Mary Thompson of Canoga Park, treasurer of the Sunshine Circle, had the misfortune to slip on a wet floor at a food market. The heavy fall resulted in a slight fracture of her hip bone. She is now resting at the Queen of the Angels Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bingham of Inglewood motored to Friend, Nebraska, to look over their 280-acre farm.

Mrs. Ernest Bardfeld (Lozell Westover) has engaged passage in a steamship leaving for Europe May 4th. She will take in the Olympic games in Denmark.

Among visitors to this city were Floyd Stoner, of Butler, Pa., who called on his old classmate, Mrs. Laura (Bigley) Phelps, and old friends Mr. and Mrs. James Conway; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Wolters of Minneapolis, who visited their nephew at Buena Park and were surprised to meet their old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Walton and Mr. and Mrs. Conway, and Mrs. Grace Munger Slack, of Cedarville, Mich., who is the house guest of Mrs. Jessie Walton for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Roberts have moved to Kingman, Arizona, where Mr. Roberts has landed a government job as a draftsman.

Mr. and Mrs. Walton are inconsolable over the death of the dog they had owned for 15 years. She was run over by a car, and the accident resulted in a tumor which became so serious that the veterinarian advised that she be put to sleep.

Come to Cleveland July 3-9

## **OHIO . . .**

The Claude Woodrums of Akron have purchased a home on Cutler Parkway from their landlord, and are now themselves enjoying the status of landlords—they rent one floor to one of their sons.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Kolb and Cecil's mother, Mrs. Madge Kolb, returned from a motor trip through Florida bearing gifts—three bushels of tree-ripened oranges for distribution to friends.

William Bowles has the honor of being the first deaf man to receive a 25-year plaque from the Seiberling Rubber Company, established in 1921. In addition to the plaque, the company gave four weeks paid vacation and a check for \$250 to each of the four men honored at the 25-Year Club's luncheon.

The Akron Club is negotiating for purchase of a three-story brick building on E. Exchange St., one of the busiest streets of Akron.

## **ALABAMA . . .**

Steve L. Mathis Jr., was a holiday visitor in Mobile, which is his home. He was accompanied by a friend, Donald L. Ballantyne Jr. Their brief stay featured parties in their honor given

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# SWinging...

by friends. Mr. Mathis Jr. is a Gallaudet student, while Mr. Ballantyne Jr. is working toward his Ph. D. at Catholic University in Washington, D. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cramner visited their daughter in Mobile for several weeks before departing for Chicago.

The marriage of Mr. Olen Tate to Miss Agnes Pesto was an event of December 25th at the home of the Rev. John Fox in Birmingham.

## ARIZONA . . .

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Craven, who moved to Tucson from Washington, D. C., less than a year ago, now own a nice three bedroom home in one of the "Old Pueblo's" newer subdivisions. Jack has covered the entire floor span with colorful asphalt tile while wife, "Dwacie," has dolled up the rest of the interior.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto Quijada are expecting a visit from "Doc" Stork sometime in February. This will mark their fifth visit from the bird.

The Tucson Club of the Deaf staged

a "watch" party on the eve of December 31. A good crowd of approximately fifty were on hand to enjoy the tasty ham dinner, games, dancing, etc., in an entirely new surrounding—the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Craven.

## OREGON . . .

Hope Lutheran Church in Portland has been the scene of two stork showers recently, one honoring Mrs. Frances Baim (formerly of Chicago), and the other for Mrs. Earl Hughes. Hostesses for the Bain shower were Mmes. Ruth Vogt, Marjorie Fritch, Peggy Rattan, Zelma Walton, and Richard Anderson. Those engineering the shower for Mrs. Hughes were Mmes. Cleo Hood, Fred Tartouni, and his wife.

Mrs. Dora Craven seriously injured her back when she slipped on a patch of ice while getting off a bus near her home. It is reported she will be in braces for almost a year.

A "basketball party" held January 28th, for the benefit of the Portland-sponsored tournament, was well attended and enjoyed by all present.

## ILLINOIS

The American Lip-Readers Club celebrated their Eighth Anniversary with a banquet and installation of the new 1949 officers on January 23. They are Mrs. Cecil Spater, President; Robert Frost, Vice-President; Ginny Miner, Secretary, and F. Johnson, Treasurer.

Mike Kasier's drums seem to have a magnetic power over the deaf crowds that flock to the Chicago Club of the Deaf after the basket-ball games.

Mr. Irving O'Brien who has been hospitalized for some time has returned home but on doctor's orders must take the rest cure in bed. Although not able to go out as yet Fred Lee, the deaf artist, is also recuperating at home from the heart attacks he suffered last summer. Others on the sick list are Mrs. Theresa Kech and Mr. A. Novotny.

## MINNESOTA . . .

Cancellation of a plane flight for Minneapolis from Kansas City caused Sheba Latz of Los Angeles to miss by a few hours the funeral of her father. However, she remained with her family for two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Winston recently flew to Lexington, Ky., to visit their son.

Bob Carlson and John Fattici are the latest to join the ever-swelling numbers of deaf home-owners.

Thompson Hall basketeers lost a game to the strong Des Moines team on the latter's home floor in January, 48-28, but are set to go after the honors again in the return game scheduled for Feb. 12th in the Twin Cities.

Darwin Younggren, first-year printing instructor at the Montana School, was a recent visitor to the Twins. Philip Cadwell enjoyed a four-day visit from his son, who is a United States Marine.

## MARYLAND . . .

Mrs. Henry Ross of Baltimore recently had a most pleasant birthday surprise. Her husband presented her with a television set made by his brother. He is all smiles these days because of his new, better paying job.

Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Schnerr have enjoyed six delightful weeks with their granddaughter Sheila, who was born to their daughter Dinae, of Los Angeles, last fall.

## Peru Subscription Assured

Within a few days of the appearance of the February issue, carrying an appeal for a subscription to THE SILENT WORKER for the nuns in charge of the Peruvian School for the Deaf in Lima, the news editor received a personal check for \$3.50 from Charles Russell of Los Angeles.

The subscription will begin with this issue, and Mr. Russell is to be thanked for his rapid response to the suggestion.

## CLUB DIRECTORY

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## *Dr. Whildin Returns to States from Korea*

by ELIZABETH MOSS

Dr. Olive Whildin, supervisor of special education, in charge of physically handicapped children in the Baltimore public school system, left Baltimore November 7, 1947, for Seoul, Korea where she was sent by the War Department as adviser to the American Military Government in charge of education of the deaf and blind. After a year of work among the Koreans with the aid of Mr. Chu Young-Man, a young, well educated teacher of the

blind, who was her interpreter, she returned to the United States on December 7, 1948 and was home in time to enjoy the holidays with her mother.

Mr. Chu came along with Dr. Whildin to study special education in the United States in order to carry on a more effective program at the National School for the Deaf and Blind in Seoul, of which he was recently appointed principal, when he goes back to Korea. Now he is taking courses in the normal training class at Gallaudet College. He hopes to go to other institutions later to study. He is an official representative of the Korean Government during his stay in America.

The above is probably the last picture ever taken of Washington Barrow Sr., beloved Chicagoan and long-time officer of the NFSD, who succumbed to a heart attack on Dec. 18, 1948. Barrow was one of the first members of the fraternal group when it was organized in 1901. Barrow is at right. The picture was taken during a recent preview showing of the movie, "Johnny Belinda."

## *Vital Statistics*

### **BIRTHS:**

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hughes; Portland, Ore.; a boy, Dec. 3.  
Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Hood; Portland, Ore.; a boy, Dec. 10.  
Mr. and Mrs. Delos Nellis; Salem, Ore.; a girl, Dec. 17.  
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence E. Clark Jr.; Talladega, Ala.; a girl, Jan. 11.  
Rev. and Mrs. Floyd F. Possehl, New York, N. Y.; a girl, Jan. 26.  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kennedy, West Hartford, Conn.; a girl, Jan. 14.  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard McLaughlin, Minneapolis, Minn.; a boy, Jan. 8.  
Mr. and Mrs. George Dietrich, Los Angeles, Cal.; a girl, Jan. 8.  
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon McGuire, Chicago, Ill.; a boy, Jan. 4.  
Mr. and Mrs. John Hoberg, Chicago, Ill.; a boy, Nov. 7.  
Mr. and Mrs. Chester Geiger, Chicago, Ill.; a boy, Nov. 12.

### **MARRIAGES:**

Albert Marino—Dorothy Ware; Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 8.  
Albert Sommers—Lay Soll, New York, N. Y.

### **DEATHS:**

Duncan Ross McDonald, formerly of Erie, Pa.; in Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 9, 1948. Following a lengthy illness. Survived by his widow, stepson and daughter.  
Hubert J. Booz, Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 7.  
Matthew Mies, 70, Minneapolis, Minn. Interment in Assumption, Minn.  
Stephen Caldwell, 72, father of Mrs. Joseph Stanczyk.  
Mrs. John Schwartz, Chicago, Ill., died Jan. 12, 1949.

# **ALAMEDA COUNTY CALIFORNIA**

## *Welcomes and Salutes*

### *Fifth Annual*

# **NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

1949

**American Athletic  
Association of the Deaf**

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# Movie Guide

LILLIAN HAHN, *Editor*

CAROLINE GOODE, *Associate Editor*

NORMA S. ANDERSON, *Associate Editor*

## General Comment

It heartens us to see that our readers really take an interest in this department. Ernest Herron from Georgia wrote and said he liked our reviews. There is also a theatre in Atlanta

which shows foreign films. Regarding this question of foreign films, we are continually getting cards which tell us that Romero was wrong when he named only a few major cities as having theatres which show such. Caroline Avery Colgain up

in Washington says that the latest shown in Spokane was the Swedish "Lazy Lena and Blue Eyed Per", a folk tale and very good. The title describes the content pretty clearly. Bunny White says that San Francisco has two, Oakland and also Berkeley have two each. St. Louis also has one such place. Programs sent us by C. B. Jacobson and Bob Greenmun show that Columbus, Ohio, has a very good World Theatre for foreign films.

Solly Brandt from New York sent us a review of the movie "A Song Is Born", starring Danny Kaye. Says Solly: . . . "Nothing to be excited about . . . A picture unbefitting Danny Kaye . . . Kaye is a professor of music and goes out to investigate jazz. During the rounds of the night clubs, he meets V. Mayo, who is a gangster moll. As the picture unfolds, she falls in love with Danny, and the gangster plus his gang gets captured. As usual, everything ends up just dandy . . ." He also liked "The Pearl", which was reviewed some time ago.

Jack Goldstein of Los Angeles liked "Don Juan", which he saw even before we did . . . Said it was very good and easy to understand.

Schmidt of Riverside, California, gave us a brief oral review of "Yellow Sky", starring Gregory Peck, Richard Widmark and Anne Baxter. He liked the movie, which, in brief runs thus: Gregory Peck is the leader of a band that robs a bank and flees. They cross into Utah and in the desert come to a shack where a gold prospector and his daughter (Anne Baxter) live. They want to stay there but are not welcome. They find out that gold is hidden and this causes a ruckus within the gang. Gregory Peck is converted to the cause of righteousness and in the ensuing battle, the gang is wiped out. Result, all ends well and the loot from the bank is returned.

For Roy Rogers and Trigger fans, "The Far Frontier", which we saw in connection with "The Paleface", is very good. The story concerns smuggling of aliens. A mountie gets wise and is beaten up which causes him to lose his memory. However, Roy Rogers is right there and he dopes out who is guilty, even to the use of carrier pigeons.



LILLIAN HAHN



### SYMPHONIE PASTORALE

by Andre Guide, is a wonderful experience which one cannot afford to miss. The movie was awarded first prize by a 40 Nation Jury and is a strong contender for the Academy Award. Michele Morgan acts the part of Gertrude, a blind girl who is found by the Pastor when she is very young. She is little more than an animal, unable to even walk correctly. The Pastor teaches her, leads her and guides her as she grows up. In this educational process, he seeks to possess her completely, neglecting his wife and children. In time the children grow up and the son falls in love with Gertrude. The Pastor, not wishing to see Gertrude leave his possessive care, causes a rift between the two. In course of time, an operation restores Gertrude's sight and she mistakes the son for the father. In the end, too late, she realizes that a possessive love is a selfish love and that she loves—but it is not the Pastor. The Pastor wins, but it is an empty victory. There are many morals in the story, and many things for conjecture. It is however, above all, an emotional story, and one that will catch your heart as well as your mind.

### THE ADVENTURES OF DON JUAN

starring Errol Flynn and Viveca Lindfors with Robert Douglas, Alan Hale and Ann Rutherford will delight the deaf. The story, as a story, is no great drama and the plot is threadbare and thin but the amount of action and the technicolor will suffice. We are not an Errol Flynn fan, but we did enjoy this movie—he is quite dashing and very, very handsome as he flits from amour to amour, fencing jousts and sword duels, or should we say, leaps from? The story will be easy to follow; the costumes are gorgeous—even the men's, although we still can't figure out how Errol Flynn avoided splitting his tight pants in all those activities he undertook. Robert Douglas plays the part of the evil Duke who tells the weak king what and how to behave. His machinations are eventually foiled by Flynn and his youthful cohorts from the fencing class. Viveca Lindfors makes a most beautiful queen although, she doesn't quite look the part of a peace-loving ruler. Her cold, imperious beauty seems to call for an Elizabethan role.

The end will delight all who think movies should entertain. It is a wondrous spectacle when the fencing class meets the Duke's guards and the sword play between Errol Flynn and the Duke has everything in the book.

### THE PALEFACE

This is good or fair, depending on how you

Readers are invited to contribute news items and pictures, properly captioned. All news should be mailed to Mrs. Loel Schreiber, News Editor, P. O. Box 212, Lancaster, California, well in advance of the first of each month.

like Bob Hope. "The Paleface" is a usual Hope vehicle replete with comic situations and the Hope facial grimaces. We do not particularly care for Bob Hope and found the movie a little on the corny side, but our escort is a devoted Hope fan and he found the movie up to expectations. Jane Russell, of "The Outlaw" fame plays the part of straight shooting, tough Calamity Jane.

The story is short: Bob Hope is a traveling dentist who plies his trade with the aid of a book and tank of laughing gas. He meets up with Calamity Jane when she is trying to escape from some bad, bad men who are intent on shooting her up. They sort of fall in love with each other, if you can call it that. Bob Hope gets a reputation as a tough hombre and a sharpshooter with a pistol when Jane mows down some Indians in an Indian attack. From then on, Bob, who really thinks he "done" the shooting, and Jane, who did do it, go places.

You will enjoy Bob Hope's chase of the tough gunman, the scene with the Indian brave who accidentally inhaled the laughing gas and other characteristic Hope situations.



### LET'S LIVE A LITTLE

a slapstick comedy, starring Hedy Lamarr, Robert Cummings, and Anna Sten. Has too much dialogue but you will be amused by Cummings' antics.

Cummings is an advertising executive, victim of "frazzled nerves" and insomnia. His assistant manager suggests that he visit Dr. Loring, author of "Let's Live a Little" and ask for advice. You guessed it, this Dr. Loring turns out to be a woman played by Hedy Lamarr. Cummings is torn between the two women, and together they get involved in a cold cream flinging match, night-club fight and a wild auto chase.

NORMA ANDERSON



### COMMAND DECISION

with an all-star cast—Gable, Pidgeon, Donlevy, Bickford, Hodak, Edward Arnold and Van Johnson, will still be on our "NO, NO" list for the deaf. There is absolutely no action—the story concerns the problems that beset commanders at headquarters in war time—and as you can surmise, the whole thing is carried on by conversation. All you will see are the same rooms with doors opening and closing, a big map of targets, and the same personages over and over again, talking and talking. If you are a devoted Gable, Pidgeon or Dunlevy fan, or even a Van Johnson rooter, this is your chance to sit and gaze a couple of hours at your favorite movie star. For others, we recommend that a good night at home will be more interesting.

Inasmuch as some of you will have seen it, and were unable to make out the story at all, here it is, in brief.

Gable is a general who is planning in terms of future offensives and hitting at military targets far in the interior of Germany which

results in large casualty figures, both in terms of men and planes. His superior, Walter Pidgeon, understands this, but, at the same time, has to think of other things—such as daylight precision bombing—publicity, and the impact of so many men killed in the accomplishment of a mission. Edward Arnold plays the part of a member of a Congressional investigation committee who are thinking only in terms of men lost on a raid. Charles Bickford is a newspaper correspondent who does not see things Gable's way. Brian Donlevy plays the part of a general who aims at Gable's job—and on getting it, finds it a bit uncomfortable. If you must see it, don't say we didn't tell you.

### Reader Comment

- "I enjoy the Movie Guide of the S. W. The hearing people like it too."—VIRGINIA DRIES, Chicago, Ill.
- "S. W. is certainly turning out to be a very nice publication. Look for it every month."—KONRAD HOKANSON, Portland, Ore.
- All the deaf in Monroe saw the movie, "Johnny Belinda"—best one we have ever seen. It is wonderful. We wish to congratulate you and your staff on the very great improvement of THE SILENT WORKER."—LAFAYETTE A. TROUSDALE, Monroe, La.

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# Meagher's Musings

by J. FREDERICK MEAGHER

*Are you going to Cleveland's NAD Convention this summer?*

Cleveland is in Ohio. Ohio was the birthplace of our NAD. In August, 1880, a group of about 80 deafies (now all dead?) met in Cincinnati's Gibson House and formed the National Association of the Deaf. This was the first National body to represent us—21 years before our powerful NFSD started on a shoestring!

Buffalo, 1930, celebrated our NAD's 50th anniversary—receiving a congratulatory letter from Pres. Herbert Hoover. N. Y.'s governor, Franklin D. Roosevelt, sent a messenger! (Ever hear of F.D.R.? A cripple, he afterwards became a big shot.)

Buffalo's '30 seems to hold the record for attendance at our conventions—over 3000. Buffalo also saw the closest-ever vote for president—Kenner of NYC, 244; Smielau of Ohio, 249. Like most platform wonders, Smielau proved a flop at getting things done. Oh, well, he's dead.

Buffalo, '30, also saw us unveil the De l'Epee statue on Main street—right in front of that sturdy old St. Mary's school which trained all those kids who won our '45 and '48 National Deaf Clubs Cage Championships! Interesting sidelight on that statue—made by deaf sculptor Hannan—is the bronze statue of De l'Epee cost us \$6000, granite pedestal \$3343.37, alphabet tablet \$800—total \$10,143.37. Miscellaneous expenses, refunds, brokers' commissions, fees, etc., came to \$4934.45. Grand total \$15,077.82.

And all for what? We deaf had also raised \$12,000 for the Gallaudet statue on our Gallaudet College campus—made by sculptor French (a hearie Frenchman), about 1890. The next saddle-soaped sap who moves that our NAD erect a cold, expensive statue to anyone, ought to be tomahawked and scalped by some real American! There are lots of better ways to spend our money. Surprise! Who do you think got

the praise for long, tireless labor—raising funds for Buffalo's De l'Epee statue? And was prevented by sickness from attending our Buffalo '30 NAD? Yes, who raised all that money to honor a devout Catholic priest? A Jew!!! The late Samuel Frankenstein! Imagine a Jew toiling to extol and glorify a Catholic!

This U. S. A. is about the only place in the world where religious beliefs don't count—you are first and foremost an American! One for all and all for one!

Buffalo also gave us a boatride to Canada. And a trolley-tour around Niagara Falls.

Wonder what surprises await us at Cleveland next summer?

Deaf Conventions in Cool Colorado were Colorado Springs NAD, 1910; and Denver NFSD, 1927. How about a Pueblo NAD in '52? How many deafies in the town? Any of them capable of handling Big Business like a national convention?

If so, Colorado would get an almost unanimous vote from all veteran convention hounds who remember '10 and '27. In hot weather, Cool Colorado is heaven-on-earth!

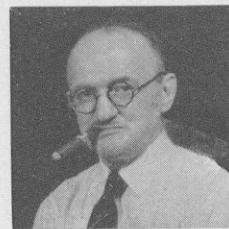
And I don't mean maybe, baby!

\* \* \*

From Coast to Coast swings the National Deaf Clubs basketball tournament; last year in Philadelphia—this year in Oakland, Cal. Oakland raised around \$7000 for expenses of visiting teams; Oakland Municipal Auditorium seats 8,000. All by, for and of the deaf—we deaf never hit such high spots over in Europe—or in Asia!

\* \* \*

Erratum: Dr. George McClure's dead son was Supt. of our North Dakota school and our Missouri school; not of South Dakota. His grandson, Bill J., is principal of Kendall school—on the Gallaudet campus—not of W. Pa. Sam Craig is Supt. of W. Pa. (*Old stuff, Jimmy—See Vol. 1, No. 3, page 31.*)  
—Ed.)



J. F. MEAGHER

## Oakland Produces Top Bowlers

by E. S. LADNER

When it comes to selecting the outstanding team of deaf bowlers in the country, consideration must be given to the city of Oakland, California. For some years Oakland has been the "hotbed" of bowling in the Far West and the deaf bowlers have come in for their share of prizes in bowling leagues and tournaments. Recently, the Seventh Annual Tournament was held in Los Angeles on May 28-29-30-31, 1948. Oakland was acknowledged the best team and given the smallest handicap which was not enough to beat two Los Angeles teams with larger handicaps. However, Oakland still possesses the team series record of 2956 set in 1947 in winning the tournament at Portland, Oregon. Also the Oaklanders hold the team game record of 1010. C. Williamson of Oakland bowled 270 in 1946 without any handicap.

Probably the greatest team of deaf bowlers in Oakland was the 1946-47 Oakland Silents which took first in the 850 (no handicap) League of the city and also first at the Portland Tournament. The team was made up of Paul Senkbeil, Clyde Williamson, Arlie Taylor, Ellis McMilin, and Dominick Ponsetti. Arlie led the pace with a 184 average.

Another fine team was the 1947-48 team which carried off first place in the 850 League by one game. The bowlers who took the handsome first place trophy were George Loustalot (177 average), Ellis McMilin (177), Paul Senkbeil (180), C. Williamson (182), Willard Whitehead (168) and alternate Cecil Akers (163). This same team is now bowling in the 875 League and is ahead by seven games at the present writing.

A team made up of McMilin, Loustalot, Taylor, Mike Korach and Williamson is now bowling at the new Piedmont Avenue Lanes in the Cocktail Classic 900 League (no handicap). The team is sponsored by Bud's of Oakland. Not long ago McMilin set a new league record for three games by blasting out 277, 212 and 229 for a total of 718. Good luck to this team in the tough 900 league.

Not to be outdone by their hubbies, many of the "stay at homes" have caught the fever and donned slacks. At the Los Angeles tournament a team of Oakland girls won first in the B section while another team took second in the A division. What the girls may lack in skill, they make up with form.



Won second place in "A" Division, Los Angeles tournament. Left to right: Mrs. L. Silveira, Mrs. A. Skropeta, Mrs. F. Rodriguez, Miss F. Price, Mrs. J. R. Rodriguez.



850 League Champions (Oakland) 1946-47 and also won first at tournament of Pacific Coast Deaf Bowling Association at Portland with record score of 2956 (with small handicap)... Left to right: Paul Senkbeil, Clyde Williamson, Arlie Taylor, Ellis McMilin, Dominick Ponsetti.



"B" Champions, Los Angeles Tournament, 1948: Mrs. L. McIntyre, Mrs. W. Whitehead, Mrs. C. Hagerty, Miss L. Beare and Miss Lois Erskine, shown above. Below are the 850 League Champions (Oakland) in 1947-48 (now competing in 975 league, and currently in first place). Left to right: George Loustalot, Ellis McMilin, Paul Senkbeil, Clyde Williamson, Willard Whitehead, Cecil Akers.





This is the basketball team that represented the Republic of Mexico in the London Olympics. Acuna is kneeling at far right.

**A**NGEL LISANA ACUNA, erstwhile basketball sensation of the Los Angeles Club of the Deaf and the only deaf athlete from the North American continent to compete in the World Olympic Games in London, England, has just recently signed a contract to play professional basketball, and is now the property of Abe Saperstein, of Chicago, owner of the famed Harlem Globe Trotters. He is twenty-nine years old (but doesn't look it), and a native of Tucson, Arizona.

Acuna, who needs no introduction to deafdom's sports world (nor hardly one to that of the hearing, for that matter), got his start in sports back in the 30's at the Arizona State School for the Deaf and the Blind under the skilled tutelage of the late Fred O. R. Tell. While he is more widely known for his ability as a basketball player, Acuna is virtually an all-around athlete. He starred in football, softball, track and swimming during his school days.

Prior to his graduation from the Arizona School for the Deaf in 1939, Acuna had received both state and national sports recognition. In 1937 he received honorable mention in basketball in the All-American Schools for the Deaf selections, and in 1938 was selected on the second team by that same group. He received first team honors in his last school year.

In the fall of 1938 he went out for six-man football for his first and only year. At the end of the football season that year he was placed on the Arizona All-State six-man team, and a short time later was named on the All-American (hearing) first team for six-man football.

He also excelled in track and before his graduation was one of Arizona's best hurdle and dash men. In swimming he was a "Johnny Weissmuller", exercising both speed and grace.

Upon his graduation from the Arizona School in the spring of 1939 he went to work in one of the commercial printing plants in Tucson, spending his spare time as lifeguard at one of the large municipal pools. The winter months found him again pounding the hardwood, this time in city league competition.

Sometime later he received an offer of a free scholarship from the Huachuca State Teachers College in Mexico, which he seriously considered and finally accepted. In doing this he unknowingly embarked upon a career—a basketball career.

While playing for the Huachuca Teachers, Angel not only gained a tremendous amount of basketball experience from such top competition afforded by crack service teams like Fort Bliss, Phillips 66 Oilers, and various college and university teams, not to mention the barnstorming professional teams such as the Harlem Globe Trotters, but he also gained a wealth of knowledge from his travel to such places as Central and South America, Cuba, and the West Indies.

During one of the games with the Harlem Globe Trotters, Acuna's brilliant performance, which aided in whipping the famed Negro team, not only drew admiration from the crowd, but so impressed the sage Abe Saperstein that he came to congratulate Acuna following the game. Quite unknown to Acuna, who was happy over the meeting, this acquaintance was to pay off later.

After three years with the State Teachers College, Acuna felt a desire to remain in the States, and consequently, while on a visit in Los Angeles, was lured into playing for the Los Angeles

Acuna signs autograph for English children at the stadium.

*Meet Angel Acuna...*

## Deafdom's Olympic Cage Star

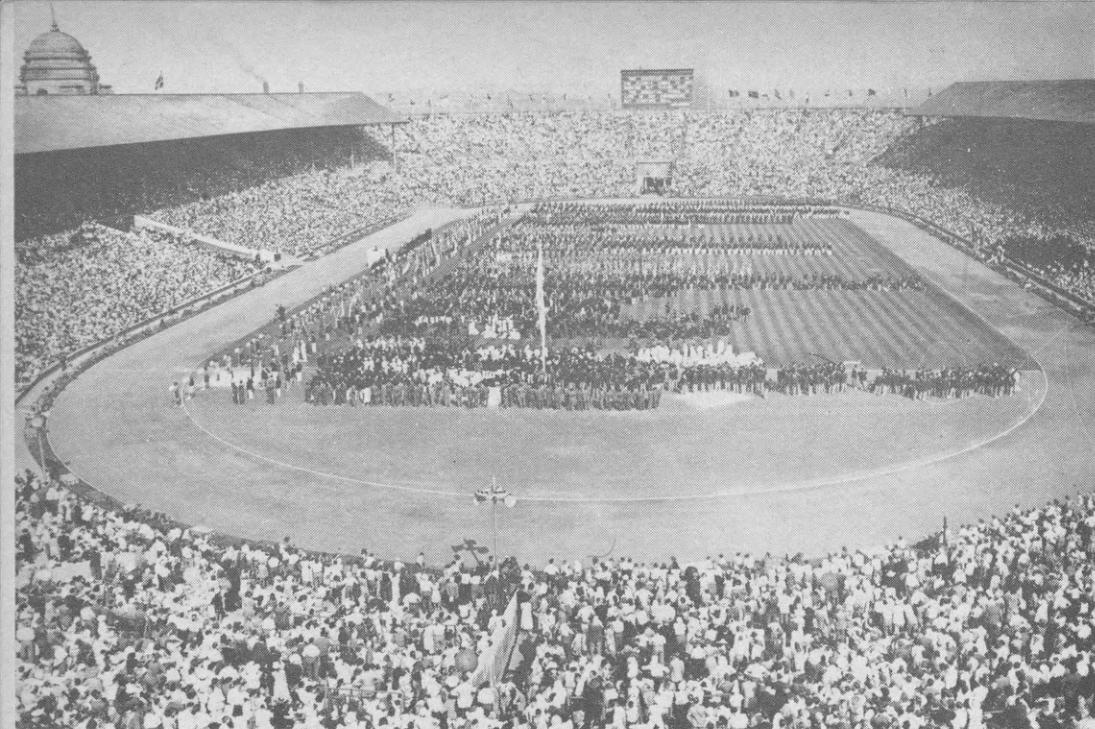
by PAUL F. BALDRIDGE

Club for the Deaf. While playing his two seasons with the LACD, Angel figured greatly in the team's winning two Far West Championships, and at both National AAAD Tournaments in Detroit and Chicago was selected on the All-Tournament first teams.

Last season he was persuaded to return to the Mexico team again and was promised a chance to qualify for the Mexico Olympic team. That season was a highly successful one for the Teachers as they lost only to Mexico City, and captured runner-up place in Mexico. It was announced later that Acuna, along with three or four of his teammates, had been named on the team that would make up the Republic of Mexico's entry into the Olympics.

"My trip to London," Acuna says, "began at the Mexico City Airport on July 7, 1948. The big airliner which carried the basketball, wrestling and track teams of the Republic of Mexico made three stops (at Miami, Bermuda, and the Azores) enroute to London.





Opening ceremonies of the London Olympics. In the basketball contests, in which Acuna participated, Mexico's entry emerged in fourth place. Acuna feels they should have done better.

"From July 9 to the 28 before the Olympic Games officially got under way, most of the time was spent seeing London, and viewing in amazement such historic places as St. James Palace, Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament, No. 10 Downing Street, Big Ben, the Tower of London, and scores of other famous buildings, statues and monuments.

"While much time was spent in sightseeing, it was not the only thing on the day's program, for the players were required to keep in top shape and this necessitated a hard practice daily."

To Acuna England is the most beautiful country he has ever seen and the English people are given to such friendliness and hospitality that he felt very much at home with them. But in spite of all this, he adds, the diet in England is very poor, with fish and potatoes being the principal fare — even for breakfast. Meat is very scarce, eggs very expensive, and cigarettes and candy are considered luxuries and are rationed.

After two weeks of the English food, Mexico attended to the food situation and started sending her athletes food from Mexico. In camp, Acuna stated, he had less trouble getting around than his teammates. Because of the great difference in the languages of the various countries, signs became the medium of communication and he felt very much in his element.

As for the United States basketball

entry, Acuna had nothing but praise. However, he feels that Mexico was gyped out of the second place by a sudden and unexplained change in the pairings after the games got underway. As a result Mexico won fourth place.

Two days after the Olympics were "a thing of the past", Acuna accompanied his team across the channel into Bologne, which is "still a mark of devastation from World War II." Then they visited Paris, with its Eiffel Tower, the Cathedral of Notre Dame, L'Arc de Triomphe, sidewalk cafes, and night clubs. After a week in the famous French capital they boarded a train for Madrid, Spain, where they spent another glorious week as guests of the Guest Airlines in Spain. Spain, says Acuna, is a beautiful country but is hot and still bears the earmarks of the Spanish civil war. He adds, "I have one comment to make, and that is the Spanish women are the most beautiful in the world."

As "all good things must end," so ended the Olympic venture of the basketball team from the Republic of Mexico as they caught a plane and arrived back in Mexico City on the night of August 28. To Acuna it was "the most thrilling and wonderful trip in his life and a never to be forgotten experience."

However, that was just the end of a trip to the World Olympic Games! Two months after his return to the states he received a nice, fat air mail letter from an old and almost forgotten acquaintance—Abe Saperstein—owner of the Harlem Globetrotters, and enclosed was an offer of another wonderful "trip". It was a contract, an offer to play professional ball on a newly formed team under ol' Abe.

So Acuna is again pounding the hardwood, but this time as a "pro" and one to whom the deaf can point with pride.

## Los Angeles Club of the Deaf, Inc.

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All Welcome NO PEDDLERS

## Sports Tournament Calendar for 1949

### BASKETBALL

**Southeastern Athletic Assn. of the Deaf**  
Nashville, Tenn., March 11, 12  
Sponsor: Nashville Club of the Deaf

**Central Athletic Assn. of the Deaf**  
Milwaukee, Wis., March 4, 5, 6  
Sponsor: Milwaukee Silent Club

**Far West Athletic Assn. of the Deaf**  
Northern Division, Portland, Ore., March 5  
Sponsor: Portland Silent Basketball Club

**Southern Division, Los Angeles, Cal., March 5**  
Sponsor: Los Angeles Club of the Deaf

**Eastern Athletic Assn. of the Deaf**  
Boston, Mass., March 12  
Sponsor: Boston Deaf Club

**American Athletic Assn. of the Deaf**  
National Tournament, Oakland, Calif., April 1-3  
Sponsor: East Bay Club for the Deaf

### BOWLING

**Great Lakes Deaf Bowlers Assn.**  
Detroit, Mich., April 23, 24  
Sponsor: Detroit Association of the Deaf

**Eastern Assn. of Deaf Bowlers**  
Philadelphia, Pa., April 9-10  
Sponsor: Silent Athletic Club

**Pacific Coast Deaf Bowlers Assn.**  
Seattle, Wash., March 27, 28, 29, 30  
Sponsor: Puget Sound Bowling Club

**Southwest Deaf Bowlers Assn.**  
Wichita, Kansas, April 23, 24  
Sponsor: Wichita Silent Club

### GOLF

**Ohio State Deaf Golfers Assn.**  
Sponsor: Cleveland Association of the Deaf

**Midwest Deaf Golfers Assn.**  
Cleveland, Ohio, during N. A. D. Convention  
Madison, Wis., (no dates set)  
Sponsor: Madison Deaf Club

### INTERNATIONAL GAMES

**Comite International des Sports Silencieux**  
Summer Games, Copenhagen, Denmark, August 12, 14  
Sponsor: Federation Sportive Silencieux du Denmark

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Meets 1st Wed. of Month

## Fur-West Basketball Tournament

**Clubs of the Deaf—AAAD Sanction (Southwest Section)**

*will be held in*

**LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
ALL DAY SATURDAY,  
MARCH 5, 1949**

*Competing teams as follows:*

**Los Angeles (defending champion),  
Tucson, Hollywood, San Francisco and  
Salt Lake City**

The winner of this meet will participate in the National Tournament to be held in Oakland, California, on April 1 and 2.

## Pacific Coast Bowlers To Meet in Seattle

by NASH GARRISON

The Pacific Coast Deaf Bowling Association, which meets in Seattle May 27-28-29-30 this year, is the outgrowth of the small four team Pacific Northwest Bowling Association organized in Portland, Oregon, in 1937. These four teams from Portland and Seattle formed the nucleus of the 26 team gathering in Los Angeles last May. Also in Los Angeles the ladies took an active part, and formed their own organization to participate in future meetings with Mrs. Fahr as their President.

The 1949 meet is expected to draw around 30 men's teams, and from present indications at least half that number of ladies' teams. This year's meet in Seattle is sponsored by the Puget Sound Deaf Bowlers Club, who put up \$500.00 to sponsor two teams at Los Angeles last year.

The 1950 Coast Meet will be in San Francisco.

The rapid growth and interest in the bowling game, a sport for both young and old, is attested by the growth of the association, which now draws teams from all the Pacific Coast states of Oregon, Washington, California, Utah, Idaho and Montana.



The Akron Silent Bowling Association's Firestone Silents, first-place five-man team winners in last-year's Great Lakes Deaf Bowling Association tournament at Cleveland, left to right: Sam Bentley, Seldon Cook, Norman Beinecke, Captain Leighton Bradley, and V. Zuchegno. It was the top prize won by any Akron team in the bi-annual tournament. The above outfit made a score of 2724. In the 1947 meet at Milwaukee the Firestones won fourth place without the services of Bradley, who was stricken with the flu. Bradley led his team-mates in the Cleveland win with a 604 score. The boys (look at the picture again) are busy preparing themselves for a repeat performance at Detroit during the April 23, 24 GLDBA tournament.

*When it's snowing, come to sunny California and celebrate the Centennial of the Gold Rush at the*

## FIFTH ANNUAL NATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT FOR CLUBS FOR THE DEAF

*sanctioned by the  
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sponsored by the*

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**Friday-Saturday-Sunday, April 1-2-3, 1949**

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Sightseeing Bus trip through East Bay Cities and San Francisco arranged for Sunday. All-day outing at Tilden Park. Chuck Wagon Lunch available for everybody including bus passengers.

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**NOTE — A DEPOSIT OF \$5.00 IS REQUIRED BY LOCAL HOTELS BEFORE ANY RESERVATION CAN BE MADE.  
RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE AT LEAST 10 DAYS BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT.**

# down allen's alley

by  
GORDON B. ALLEN,  
*Sports Editor*

Golf is becoming increasingly popular among the deaf. Shown here are, left to right: Bert Willis of New Brunswick, N. J.; Charles Jerrel of Philadelphia; Otto Mangrum of Philadelphia, and Charles R. Dobbins of Trenton, N. J. Dobbins was the winner in this round at the Yardley Golf Club in Philadelphia.



## TRAVARCA IN PIN WIN

For the second straight time a Cleveland bowler copped first place in the annual Individual Bowling Classic sponsored by the Detroit Association of the Deaf at Art Center Alleys. The Classic, usually held in February, was moved up to last November 20 and 27. The two-day meet attracted 120 bowlers. Half of them shared in the



C. TRAVARCA

\$1,500 prize money.

Handsome Carmen Travarca, one of the Central States' most consistent bowlers, took the \$300 first place money with a 1248 total for six games—an average of 208 per game and a new record for this popular event. Travarca was in excellent form to overtake Ivor Friday, of Detroit, who was the leader at the end of the first day. His high score was 244 made in the fourth game. He sailed along in this game with eight straight strikes, but dreams of a perfect

game were shattered by splits in the ninth and tenth frames.

## CENTRAL CALLING—AGAIN

In our Sports column in the November issue we announced Milwaukee's readiness for the annual CAAD basketball tournament. It seems that we left the impression that Alex Fleischman was chairman of the tournament committee. Truth is, we did not know who was chairman at that time. It is well known by now that the alert and capable Larry Yolles, who chairmanned the great Great Lakes Deaf Bowling Association tournament at Milwaukee in 1947, is chairman of this tournament March 4, 5, 6. Mr. Fleischman is handling publicity.

## FLASH—HOUSTON LOSES

The Houston Silents, who represented the Southwest region in the last three AAAD tournaments, were beaten by the Little Rock Silents at the Southwest tournament held at Little Rock, January 29, 30. The score was 36 to 38, giving the Arkansas boys the title. Complete account of that thriller-diller tournament will appear in the next issue.

## BOWLING MEET CANCELLED

The Eastern States Bowling Tournament scheduled to be held the week-end of November 27 at Washington, D. C., was cancelled a week before that date for lack of enough entries.

## ART KRUGER SAYS:

"There's no law against it, so-o-o-o I rate the top five schools for the deaf elevens for the 1948 season as follows: 1—Tennessee, 2—Mt. Airy, 3—Arkansas, 4—Virginia and 5—Illinois."

## KRUGER KORRECTIONS

In February issue, American school unbeaten in 1940 not 1949. Elanausky of Mt. Airy played tackle not end. Season record New Jersey omitted. Should be, won 2, lost 5, tied 0, pts. 40, opp. 130. Central rankings should be: 1—Illinois, 2—Indiana, 3—Wisconsin, 4—Michigan, 5—Ohio and 6—Kentucky, and not as printed on page 30 (Feb. issue).

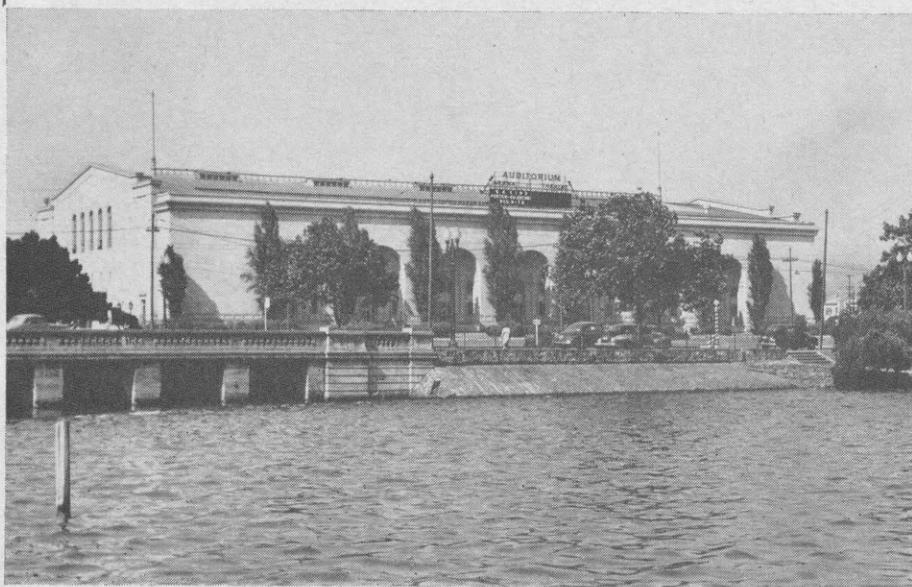
## OSDGA'S KRESS WRITES:

"Your article about the Ohio State Deaf Golf Association in the January issue of THE SILENT WORKER has attracted considerable attention here in Akron.

"The pictures were reproduced clearly and Mr. Pickel was quite proud of them. Your job of editing the article was noteworthy, and the only serious error was the mention of Mr. Herman Cahen as the new president of our organization. A check of my copy forwarded to you shows that I stated that Julius Cahen is the new president for 1949, not his brother Herman. A correction in a future issue will be appreciated.

Thanks, Ken. Those brothers are mentioned frequently in deaf sheets and it is easy to mix their names.

Oakland Civic Auditorium, on the shore of Lake Merritt, will house the Fifth Annual National Basketball Tournament, April 1-3. Seating capacity was recently increased to 8,800.



# The Editor's Page

## LETTERS

THE SILENT WORKER welcomes reader comment, but the editors reserve the right to edit letters to meet space requirements, and to reject such comment as may seem unfit for publication.

### Editor:

The Jeremiad of Fred R. Murphy in the January "WORKER", in which he lays about him in righteous wrath at the envy, slander and backbiting indulged in by "many deaf people" in running down their leaders, is as timely today as when Moses brought the Ten Commandments down from Mount Sinai.

But, lest the unthinking place these sins on the doorstep of the deaf alone, I will quote from an article—just as timely—by Peter B. Kyne in *This Week Magazine* of Jan. 2, 1949, entitled "Give Them A Cheer".

*If you think that praise is due him,  
Now's the time to slip it to him,  
For he cannot read his tombstone  
when he's dead.*—Berton Braley.

"... When my own work began to appear in print, those lines came to mind, for many kind, thoughtful readers wrote to tell me that my work had given them pleasure. One such letter... was prefaced by this old New England saying, "Just praise is a debt and should be paid."... I have during the years since felt many a thrill of vicarious pleasure by making it a point, when somebody has done work I admire, to write and tell him so.... I have given these people a cheer they knew they had earned but never expected to receive!... And as one grows old, and the old friends take the Upper Road, the necessity for securing replacements becomes very apparent. As the shadows lengthen, one re-appraises his assets of love and friendship and finds them priceless."

JOHN M. FUNK

\* \* \*

### Editor:

... In my opinion, such articles as "SWinging Around the World" (*sic*) are more becoming for newspapers and school magazines (not belittling the good work of its editor).

EMANUEL GOLDENBERG.

Thanks, Emanuel, for dignifying our little column with the title of "article," and for crediting us with wider coverage than we have. We always thought we were just swinging 'round the nation.—News Ed.

The SILENT WORKER—March, 1949

### More "Johnny Belinda"

The moving picture, "Johnny Belinda", which was reviewed to considerable extent in THE SILENT WORKER, has been generally praised among the deaf who have seen it. A few, however, have seen fit to take issue with what they consider imperfections in the picture.

One point has been raised by two or three deaf critics in the school press which we believe indicates that they were not thoroughly informed as to the dialogue portion of the film, which, of course, they did not hear. They have expressed the opinion that the picture will leave among the public the impression that all the deaf are as illiterate and as pitiful as was Belinda, the heroine. We believe this attitude unfair to the producers of the film, who, we understand made special effort to avoid any such impression.

Lew Ayres, the doctor in the picture, in a conversation with the girl's father, carefully explained that the deaf were being educated in good schools, and that there was no reason for Belinda's growing up in ignorance. The impression he left among the listeners was that a deaf child would be like Belinda only if he were neglected and isolated as she was, and forced to live in an environment such as hers.

We have discussed this point with hearing friends and they all deny that the picture cast an unfavorable light upon the deaf. We were told by one hearing observer that there was no more reason for people to think all the deaf were like Belinda than there would be to assume that all hearing persons were illiterate and impoverished simply because one such hearing character appeared in a moving picture. It is quite possible that many hearing observers came to a somewhat opposite conclusion from the one so feared by some of the deaf critics. The average hearing observer may tend to assume that all deaf children can be educated with the same dispatch as displayed by Belinda. At any rate, the uncanny speed with which the young doctor was able to free her imprisoned mind by instructing her in his spare time should be ample proof to the rational observer that her ignorance was a result only of her particular environment.

To our way of thinking, the picture accomplished incalculable good for the deaf, simply because of its revelation of our sign language as the way to enlightenment and understanding for many of our people. That is a fact we deaf

have endeavored without much success to impress upon people for these many years, in which effort we have been hampered at every turn by oralist propaganda. "Johnny Belinda" put it across for us in a couple of hours. Of course, the picture paid its tribute to the value of lip-reading, but it was the sign language that opened Belinda's mind. When we consider countless deaf who have found in the sign language a means of expression and a way to learning, we should be grateful that "Johnny Belinda" recognized and revealed the truth.

### Historical Note

Mr. H. V. Jarvis, President of the New England Gallaudet Association, the oldest of all associations of the deaf in the United States, has sent THE SILENT WORKER some interesting information regarding the old newspaper, *The Gallaudet Guide and Deaf Mutes' Companion*, featured in these pages in Mrs. Stewart's monthly reviews.

According to Mr. Jarvis, the paper was started by the New England Gallaudet Association at a meeting of its constitutional committee at the home of Mr. Thomas Brown, Henniker, New Hampshire, on January 4, 1854. Quotations from the proceedings of that meeting reveal that publication of a periodical was discussed and one Mr. Marsh suggested that the name "Gallaudet" be included in the name of the periodical. Mr. Brown offered the title "*Gallaudet Guide*", and Mr. Chamberlain suggested the addition of "*Deaf Mutes' Companion*". The name was unanimously accepted.

Mr. Thomas Brown was elected the first president of the NEGA at its convention in 1854, at Hartford. Mr. Jarvis is the eighteenth president of the Association, now in his second term, after having served as treasurer for twenty years.

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